UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

JAN 3 1 2012

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

The Honorable Scott Walker
Governor of Wisconsin
115 East Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Dear Governor Walker:

This letter is to notify you of revisions to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's preliminary response to Wisconsin's air quality designation recommendations for the 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS), as specified in our December 9, 2011 letter.

In the December 9, 2011 letter, EPA stated our intention to modify Wisconsin's recommended designation for the Sheboygan, Wisconsin area by designating the area nonattainment. EPA also stated our intention to designate all other areas in Wisconsin as unclassifiable/attainment for the 2008 ozone NAAQS.

EPA policy is to consider 2011 data in the designations if states certify the data by February 29, 2012. On December 7, 2011, Illinois sent a letter to EPA submitting the state's 2011 certified air quality data for consideration in the ozone designation process. However, given the timing of the submittal, EPA was unable to consider Illinois' 2011 data in our December 9, 2011 letter. The 2011 ozone data indicate a monitored violation of the 2008 ozone NAAQS in Lake County, Illinois which is part of the Combined Statistical Area (CSA) that includes Chicago and Kenosha County, Wisconsin.

EPA has now had sufficient time to review the certified 2011 data and is amending our preliminary response to address these data. Consequently, because of monitored air quality that demonstrates a violation of the national health standard for ozone, EPA intends to designate the Chicago-Naperville, Illinois-Indiana-Wisconsin area as nonattainment, with boundaries that include: Kenosha County in Wisconsin; Lake, Porter, and Jasper Counties in Indiana; and several counties in Illinois. The enclosed Technical Support Document (TSD) is an addendum to the TSD enclosed with the December 9, 2011 letter, and provides a detailed analysis to support our intended designation for the counties in this area.

This is a unique situation because the CSA is a multistate area where only one of the states, Illinois, has submitted certified 2011 ozone data, which is not due until May 1, 2012. *See* 40 C.F.R. § 58.15. While our current intent is to include Kenosha County as part of the designated Chicago nonattainment area, we recognize that this has not been the case in the past. Nonetheless, historical data indicate a strong link between air quality levels at the violating monitor in Lake County and a monitor in Kenosha County. Please note that, during the 120-day process, we are open to discussing alternative approaches for Kenosha County; and, if the state has additional information such as certified 2011 data from Kenosha County, we will consider it.

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During the 120-day process, EPA will continue to work with state officials regarding the appropriate designations and boundaries for the areas in Wisconsin. States will have time to review these letters and provide EPA with information to support any further changes to EPA's response.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 312-886-3000, or Cheryl L. Newton, Director, Air and Radiation Division, at 312-353-6730.

Sincerely,

Susan Hedman
Regional Administrator

Enclosure (1)

cc: Cathy Stepp, Secretary, and Bart Sponseller, Director of the Bureau of Air Management
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources