



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Ms. Joyce Epps, Director
Bureau of Air Quality
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 8468
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-2063

APR 16 2009

Dear Ms. Epps:

I am hereby approving Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (PADEP) request to allow the use of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emission reduction credits to offset increased emissions of fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), at a ratio of 40 tons SO₂ to one ton of PM_{2.5} emissions, in the York County PM_{2.5} nonattainment area. This action has been considered pursuant to Conectiv Mid-Merit LLC's application for a new natural gas-fired power plant in Peach Bottom Township.

A final rule published on May 16, 2008, in the Federal Register entitled "Implementation of the New Source Review (NSR) Program for PM_{2.5}" (72 Fed Reg 28349, May 16, 2008) requires SO₂ emissions to be treated as a precursor to the formation of fine particulate matter. That same rule allows interpollutant trading in order to satisfy the requirement to provide offsets for new or modifying sources "if such offsets comply with an interprecursor trading hierarchy and ratio approved by the Administrator." The 40:1 ratio of SO₂ reductions to offset PM_{2.5} emissions proposed by PADEP for York County is the preferred ratio of SO₂ to PM_{2.5} nationwide.

On February 23, 2009, EPA published a Notice of Intent to Approve the Proposed Interpollutant Trading Request for York County, PA in *The York Dispatch* and *York Daily Record*. In this notice, EPA announced that comments would be received by EPA for 30 days. No comments in response to the above notice were received.

Information related to EPA's approval of the trading ratio for SO₂ to PM_{2.5} can be found in the Technical Support Document for the Interpollutant Trading Ratio for York County, Pennsylvania. This document and other documents related to this review are available through the Internet at: <http://www.epa.gov/reg3artd/index.htm>.

Should you have any questions regarding this approval, I may be reached at 215-814-2706 or your staff may contact Ms. Gerallyn Duke in Air Permits Branch at 215-814-2084.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diana Esher".

Diana Esher, Acting Director
Air Protection Division

