STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ATLANTA 30334-0900

Roy E. Barnes
GOVERNOR

June 30, 2000

Mr. John Hankinson
Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region IV
The Sam Nunn Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Dear Mr. Hankinson:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has promulgated a new 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard and has advised states that it is obligated by the Clean Air Act and the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century to designate areas throughout the country as attainment/unclassifiable or nonattainment for the standard. Section 107(d)(1) of the Clean Air Act provides each State Governor an opportunity to recommend designations including appropriate boundaries to EPA. EPA's memorandum dated March 28, 2000, "Boundary Guidance on Air Quality Designations for the 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards," requested that all State Governors submit their designation recommendations and supporting documentation to EPA by June 30, 2000.

The attached table provides my recommendations for the designation status for each county in Georgia. This includes 21 counties in metropolitan Atlanta and three counties outside metropolitan Atlanta.

I am making these recommendations based on the 8-hour ozone standard as revised July 1997 and EPA's most recent guidance. However, these recommendations may be revised, based on more recent ozone monitoring during 2000 or other pertinent information which could become available.

An important factor in my recommendation is the EPA and Georgia Tech ozone modeling. This indicates that Muscogee, Bibb and Richmond Counties may attain the 8-hour ozone standard after implementation of the regional nitrogen oxide emission reductions and stricter national fuel and vehicle standards, with no additional local control measures required. In light of this modeling, and given the impact a nonattainment designation will have on any county, I am recommending only those counties outside of metropolitan Atlanta which have ozone monitors showing violations of the standard be designated nonattainment. If we find in the future that this modeling is incorrect, we will re-analyze what is needed to attain the standard.

I also encourage EPA to wait to finalize any designations until the U.S. Supreme Court acts on the May 1999 D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling regarding the revised standard. I understand EPA's desire to move forward with implementation to ensure public health protection, but business and government need enough time and certainty to plan for the implementation of this standard.

While I encourage EPA to wait on designations until these legal issues are resolved, the State of Georgia will still be preparing for these standards by increasing monitoring, preparing emission inventories, working with local governments on transportation planning issues, and advising the general public regarding air quality in their areas. These actions will help ensure positive air quality planning in our State, regardless of the eventual court action and effect on the ozone standard.

Please contact Mr. Harold Reheis, Director of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, at 404/656-4713 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Roy E. Barnes

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REB/mj
ATTACHMENT

RECOMMENDED DESIGNATION STATUS FOR GEORGIA COUNTIES – PAGE 1

[illegible]	[illegible]
Appling	Attainment
Atkinson	Attainment
Bacon	Attainment
Baker	Attainment
Baldwin	Attainment
Banks	Attainment
Barrow	Non-attainment
Bartow	Non-attainment
Ben Hill	Attainment
Berrien	Attainment
Bibb	Non-attainment
Bleckley	Attainment
Brantley	Attainment
Brooks	Attainment
Bryan	Attainment
Bulloch	Attainment
Burke	Attainment
Butts	Attainment
Calhoun	Attainment
Camden	Attainment
Candler	Attainment
Carroll	Non-attainment
Catoosa	Attainment
Charlton	Attainment
Chatham	Attainment
Chattahoochee	Attainment
Chattooga	Attainment
Cherokee	Non-attainment
Clarke	Attainment
Clay	Attainment
Clayton	Non-attainment
Clinch	Attainment
Cobb	Non-attainment
Coffee	Attainment
Colquitt	Attainment
Columbia	Attainment
Cook	Attainment
Coweta	Non-attainment
Crawford	Attainment
Crisp	Attainment
Dade	Attainment
Dawson	Non-attainment
Decatur	Attainment
DeKalb	Non-attainment
Dodge	Attainment
Dooly	Attainment

RECOMMENDED DESIGNATION STATUS FOR GEORGIA COUNTIES – PAGE 2

[illegible]	[illegible]
Doughtery	Attainment
Douglas	Non-attainment
Early	Attainment
Echols	Attainment
Effingham	Attainment
Elbert	Attainment
Emanuel	Attainment
Evans	Attainment
Fannin	Attainment
Fayette	Non-attainment
Floyd	Attainment
Forsyth	Non-attainment
Franklin	Attainment
Fulton	Non-attainment
Gilmer	Attainment
Glascock	Attainment
Glynn	Attainment
Gordon	Attainment
Grady	Attainment
Greene	Attainment
Gwinnett	Non-attainment
Habersham	Attainment
Hall	Non-attainment
Hancock	Attainment
Haralson	Attainment
Harris	Attainment
Hart	Attainment
Heard	Attainment
Henry	Non-attainment
Houston	Attainment
Irwin	Attainment
Jackson	Attainment
Jasper	Attainment
Jeff Davis	Attainment
Jefferson	Attainment
Jenkins	Attainment
Johnson	Attainment
Jones	Attainment
Lamar	Attainment
Lanier	Attainment
Laurens	Attainment
Lee	Attainment
Liberty	Attainment
Lincoln	Attainment
Long	Attainment
Lowndes	Attainment

RECOMMENDED DESIGNATION STATUS FOR GEORGIA COUNTIES – PAGE 3

[illegible]	[illegible]
Lumpkin	Attainment
McDuffie	Attainment
McIntosh	Attainment
Macon	Attainment
Madison	Attainment
Marion	Attainment
Meriwether	Attainment
Miller	Attainment
Mitchell	Attainment
Monroe	Attainment
Montgomery	Attainment
Morgan	Attainment
Murray	Attainment
Muscogee	Non-attainment
Newton	Non-attainment
Oconee	Attainment
Oglethorpe	Attainment
Paulding	Non-attainment
Peach	Attainment
Pickens	Attainment
Pierce	Attainment
Pike	Attainment
Polk	Attainment
Pulaski	Attainment
Putnam	Attainment
Quitman	Attainment
Rabun	Attainment
Randolph	Attainment
Richmond	Non-attainment
Rockdale	Non-attainment
Schley	Attainment
Screven	Attainment
Seminole	Attainment
Spalding	Non-attainment
Stephens	Attainment
Stewart	Attainment
Sumter	Attainment
Talbot	Attainment
Taliaferro	Attainment
Tattnall	Attainment
Taylor	Attainment
Telfair	Attainment
Terrell	Attainment
Thomas	Attainment
Tift	Attainment
Toombs	Attainment

RECOMMENDED DESIGNATION STATUS FOR GEORGIA COUNTIES – PAGE 4

[illegible]	[illegible]
Towns	Attainment
Treutlen	Attainment
Troup	Attainment
Turner	Attainment
Twiggs	Attainment
Union	Attainment
Upson	Attainment
Walker	Attainment
Walton	Non-attainment
Ware	Attainment
Warren	Attainment
Washington	Attainment
Wayne	Attainment
Webster	Attainment
Wheeler	Attainment
White	Attainment
Whitfield	Attainment
Wilcox	Attainment
Wilkes	Attainment
Wilkinson	Attainment
Worth	Attainment