STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

ANGUS S. KING, JR
GOVERNOR

August 15, 2000

Ms. Mindy S. Lubber
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
One Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114-2023

Re: Designation of Nonattainment Areas under the 8-Hour Ozone Standard

Dear Ms. Lubber:

As required by the Clean Air Act and the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, I am submitting Maine's proposed attainment/nonattainment designations under the 8-hour ozone standard.

We have prepared our proposal within the context of Maine's full support of the 8-hour standard. In 1999, we initiated a legislative effort requiring that the State's ozone health advisories be based on that standard, regardless of any challenges to it. It is Maine's position that the 8-hour standard is appropriately protective of public health and the environment.

With that perspective, we have reviewed the State's 1997-1999 ozone monitoring data as the foundation for this proposal. As recommended by EPA, we have also considered population density, emissions, meteorology, topography, geography and transport. The enclosed Technical Support Document contains the full analysis.

Figure 2 of that document is a map of Maine's areas of nonattainment under the 8-hour standard. It includes coastal towns from Kittery to Georgetown and the Islands from Isle au Haut to Mount Desert and Winter Harbor. I propose that the rest of the state be designated as in attainment.

This proposal reflects the uniqueness of Maine's ozone problem. The analyzed data show that we clearly are impacted by overwhelming transport, as the most significant areas of influence on our monitored nonattainment sites are, in fact, outside state lines. (See Section III). Including additional in-state areas in Maine's proposal would not present the opportunity to improve air quality in the coastal corridor.

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I have asked James Brooks, director of the Bureau of Air Quality, to be available (207-287-7044) to answer any questions you may have regarding Maine's submission. At this time, I also reserve the right to amend this proposal at a future date, based on the most current quality-assured monitoring data available.

Sincerely,

Angus S. King, Jr.
Governor

Attachment

cc: Senator Olympia Snowe
Senator Susan Collins
Representative Tom Allen
Representative John Baldacci
Susan Studlien, USEPA Region 1
Senator Sharon Treat
Representative John Martin
Jason Grumet, NESCAUM
Commissioner Martha Kirkpatrick, Maine DEP
James Brooks, Maine DEP