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OFFICE OF REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

NOV - 4 2016

Shawn M. Garvin
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
Mail Code 3RA00
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

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Division Director (3A4-00)

RE: Attainment Designation Recommendation for the District for the 2010 1-hour Sulfur Dioxide Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standards

Dear Mr. Garvin:

On behalf of the District of Columbia, I thank you for the opportunity to update an original designation recommendation on the air quality status in the District for the 2010 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO₂) primary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

The 2010 NAAQS established the first 1-hour SO₂ standard of 75 parts per billion (ppb) to protect against short-term exposures. On May 23, 2011, the District recommended a designation of "unclassifiable" for the standard. At the time, there was insufficient information to meet the requirements of the revised 2010 SO₂ NAAQS final rulemaking (75 Fed. Reg. 35520; June 22, 2010).

In 2012, the District began operating a new SO₂ monitor at the McMillan Reservoir Station to comply with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) specifications. Now, there is sufficient data to recommend an "attainment" designation for the 2010 NAAQS. Three years of certified ambient air quality monitoring data resulted in a 2015 design value (DV) of 12 ppb. The 2014 DV was 11 ppb. These measurements show that short-term SO₂ pollutant concentrations in the District are far below the federal standard of 75 ppb.

On November 4, 2015, the District informed EPA that no sources within the jurisdiction emit SO₂ in quantities that would require air quality characterization. This information, provided to comply with the SO₂ Data Requirements Rule (80 Fed. Reg. 51052; August 21, 2015), further supports a designation recommendation of "attainment."

Hence, in accordance with Section 107(d)(1) of the Clean Air Act, I am recommending that the District be designated as an "attainment" area for the 2010 1-hour SO₂ primary NAAQS.

Should you require additional information on this matter, please call Tommy Wells, Director of the Department of Energy and Environment, at (202) 535-2600.

Sincerely,



Muriel Bowser

cc: Cristina Fernandez, Director, Air Protection Division, EPA Region III
Tommy Wells, Director, Department of Energy and Environment, Government of the District of Columbia
Cecily Beall, Associate Director, Air Quality Division, Department of Energy and Environment, Government of the District of Columbia