



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
& ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY
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July 30, 2013

PM Advance
c/o Laura Bunte
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards C304-01
109 TW Alexander Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC 27711

RE: Delaware's Participation in PM Advance

Dear Ms. Bunte,

Delaware's air monitoring network confirms that our cooperative work to reduce fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and PM_{2.5} precursors has been successful -- Delaware's air quality now meets all PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). We share the goal of preserving and improving clean air, and to this end Delaware desires to continue to partner with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by signing up the entire state of Delaware in the PM Advance program.

Regarding the four program eligibility criteria:

1. Delaware has monitored state-wide attainment for the 1997 and 2006 PM_{2.5} NAAQS since 2007. In January 2013 Delaware submitted to the EPA redesignation request and maintenance plan State Implementation Plans (SIPs) for both of these NAAQS for New Castle County, and all necessary State action to redesignate New Castle County to attainment is complete. The remainder of the State of Delaware is not designated nonattainment for any PM_{2.5} NAAQS. Delaware is also monitoring statewide attainment for the more protective 2012 PM_{2.5} NAAQS.
2. The geographic area to participate in the PM Advance program is the entire state of Delaware.
3. The air monitors that reflect PM_{2.5} air quality in Delaware are:
 - a. Bellefonte (AQS ID 10-003-1003)

- b. Wilmington (AQS ID 10-003-2004)
- c. Newark (AQS ID 10-003-1012)
- d. Lums Pond (AQS ID 10-003-1007)
- e. Dover (AQS ID 10-001-0003)
- f. Killens Pond (AQS ID 10-001-0002)
- g. Seaford (AQS ID 10-005-1002)

4. Delaware has met all existing emissions inventory reporting requirements.

We understand that our efforts under PM Advance may benefit the State of Delaware by potentially:

- Reducing local concentrations of PM_{2.5} as well as other air pollutants,
- Maintaining the PM_{2.5} NAAQS,
- Helping avoid violations of the PM_{2.5} NAAQS that could lead to a future nonattainment designation,
- Increasing public awareness about PM_{2.5} as an air pollutant, and
- Targeting limited resources toward actions to address PM_{2.5} problems quickly.

Our goal is to implement measures and programs to identify and reduce local PM_{2.5} emissions and concentrations throughout the State of Delaware in the near term. We agree that it is in our best interest to work together and in coordination with stakeholders and the public to proactively pursue this goal. We understand, however, that full participation in the PM Advance program may not occur until EPA takes final action approving our January 2013 redesignation request and maintenance plan SIP submittals for New Castle County. Despite this, we believe that including the entire State in the PM Advance program is vital to the success of the program in Delaware, and understand EPA will propose approval of our New Castle County SIPs shortly. Once New Castle County is redesignated to attainment later this year we understand that the entire State of Delaware can fully participate in the PM Advance program.

I look forward to working with you to make the PM Advance program a success in Delaware.

Sincerely,



Ali Mirzakhali, P.E.
Director

Cc: Collin P. O'Mara
Ron Amirikian
David Fees
Valerie Edge
Diana Esher, EPA Region 3
Maria Pino, EPA Region 3