



# Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

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800-657-3864 | 651-282-5332 TTY | [www.pca.state.mn.us](http://www.pca.state.mn.us) | Equal Opportunity Employer

March 11, 2013

Ms. Laura Bunte  
PM Advance  
OAQPS, C304-01  
4930 Old Page Road  
Durham, NC 27703

Dear Ms. Bunte:

The state of Minnesota is currently a participant in the Ozone Advance program. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) wishes, in addition, to join the PM Advance program. The MPCA, through partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is participating in the Advance programs with the goal of preserving Minnesota's attainment status with the PM<sub>2.5</sub> and ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and improving air quality in the state.

The state of Minnesota meets the program eligibility criteria, i.e.:

- (1) The State of Minnesota is currently in attainment with the 24-hour and annual NAAQS for fine particle pollution as revised and published on December 14, 2012.
- (2) The MPCA operates 17 PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring stations within the state using a combination of Federal Reference and Federal Equivalent Method monitors. Data from some of these monitors is available at the MPCA's Air Quality Index website<sup>1</sup>, and all PM<sub>2.5</sub> data are submitted quarterly to EPA's Air Quality System with annual certification.
- (3) Existing emissions inventory reporting requirements have been met.

The MPCA has established a stakeholder process to identify actions to help Minnesota meet our air quality goals. This process is known as Minnesota's Clean Air Dialogue.<sup>2</sup> As noted in our Ozone Advance sign up letter, because parts of Minnesota are near nonattainment for PM<sub>2.5</sub>, we have combined our efforts into one multi-pollutant program.

This request for the participation of Minnesota in the PM Advance program does not include areas that are under tribal jurisdiction. However, the MPCA is fully committed to working with tribal governments, and any affected local governments; to effectively and efficiently meet the goals of the Advance program.

Our goal is to work in coordination with the group of stakeholders and the public to proactively implement measures and programs to reduce ozone and PM<sub>2.5</sub> in the state of Minnesota in the near term.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://aqi.pca.state.mn.us/index.cfm>

<sup>2</sup> Information on the stakeholder group, including members and meeting materials, can be found at: <http://www.environmental-initiative.org/projects/minnesotas-clean-air-dialogue>

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If you have questions concerning Minnesota's participation in PM Advance, please contact Mary Jean Fenske at 651-757-2354 or [maryjean.fenske@state.mn.us](mailto:maryjean.fenske@state.mn.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Linc Stine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being the most prominent.

John Linc Stine  
Commissioner

JLS/MJF:jab

cc: Steve Rosenthal, EPA Region 5