



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD



CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

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March 26, 2012

MRS. JUDITH A. ENCK  
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR  
USEPA – REGION II  
290 BROADWAY 25<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
NEW YORK NY 10007-1866

**Puerto Rico Designation for the New 1-Hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS  
Withdrawn of initial recommendation and new recommendation**

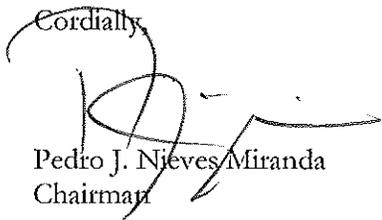
On June 3, 2012 the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (PREQB) submitted the initial designation for all areas in Puerto Rico, pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C 7407(d)(1)(A)). PREQB recommended the EPA to classify the Barceloneta/Manatí, Guayama, San Juan, and Guayanilla/Ponce areas as “non-attainment” under the revised NAAQS for SO<sub>2</sub>. It also proposed that the Mayaguez and Fajardo/Humacao areas be designated as unclassified areas for SO<sub>2</sub>. This initial request was based on monitoring data and results from a refined air dispersion model.

More recently, the PREQB has gathered additional information related to the emission inventory used for the dispersion models demonstration. Since the emission inventory may not reflect the more recent and available information, as required for the sulfur dioxide designation (75 FR 35569), the PREQB is requesting to retire the recommendations contained in the letter dated June 3, 2011.

In consequence, the PREQB is now submitting an “unclassifiable” recommendation for all areas of Puerto Rico.

Please feel free to contact me at (787) 767-8056 if you have any questions regarding this matter, or contact Mr. Luis Sierra, Manager of the Air Quality Area, at (787) 787-756-8393.

Cordially,

  
Pedro J. Nieves Miranda  
Chairman

c. George Pavlou  
José Font