



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Air Quality and Climate Division

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Agency of Natural Resources

March 31, 2016

PM Advance

c/o Laura Bunte

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, C304-01

Research Triangle Park, NC 27711

Dear Ms. Bunte:

The State of Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation would like to participate in the PM Advance Program with respect to Rutland, Vermont (City and Town), and other potential valley locations to be determined.

We wish to join this partnership with EPA to preserve or improve the air quality in Rutland (and potentially other communities), and we meet the following program eligibility criteria:

- (1) Rutland, Vermont is not currently a nonattainment area for the 1997, 2006 or 2012 annual or 24-hour fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS);
- (2) Rutland is located in south-central Vermont, roughly centered on the intersection of state routes 4 and 7 (see attached map). It encompasses an area of approximately 26 square miles, and the 2014 population was approximately 21,000;
- (3) The following air monitor reflects the air quality in Rutland:

EPA AQS site ID: 50-021-0002
Address: 96 State Street
Latitude 43° 36' 29" (43.608056°), Longitude: -72° 58' 58" (-72.982778°)
Elevation 165 m; and
- (4) Existing emissions inventory reporting requirements have been met.

We understand that our efforts under PM Advance may benefit Rutland by potentially:

- Reducing air pollution in terms of PM_{2.5} as well as other air pollutants,
- Maintaining compliance with the annual and 24-hour PM_{2.5} NAAQS,
- Helping avoid violations of the annual and 24-hour 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.

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Our goal is to implement measures and programs to reduce PM_{2.5} in Rutland in the near term. We agree to that it is in our best interest to work together and in coordination with stakeholders and the public to proactively pursue this goal.

Sincerely,



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cc: Alison Simcox – USEPA Region 1

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Rutland, Vermont Area

