



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1
5 POST OFFICE SQUARE, SUITE 100
BOSTON, MA 02109-3912

AUG 22 2017

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Governor of Connecticut
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Dear Governor Malloy:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) intended designations for all areas in Connecticut for the 2010 Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for sulfur dioxide (SO₂). The designations for this NAAQS are an important part of EPA's commitment to a clean, healthy environment. These intended designations are a response to designations-related recommendations and information your state submitted in letters dated June 13, 2011 and March 14, 2013.¹

On July 25, 2013, EPA designated certain areas in 16 states as nonattainment, but did not at that time designate other areas. Additional areas were designated on June 30, 2016 and November 29, 2016. No areas in Connecticut were designated in these previous actions. Pursuant to a March 2, 2015 court-ordered schedule,² the agency must complete the remaining SO₂ designations by two specific deadlines: December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2020. Accordingly, pursuant to section 107(d)(1)(B)(ii) of the Clean Air Act, this letter is to notify you of EPA's assessment of your state's recommended designations for Connecticut. We are in agreement with your recommendation.

If you or your staff have additional information that the EPA should consider prior to finalizing the designations, please submit it as soon as possible but no later than October 23, 2017. You may submit additional information by sending it to EPA's public docket for these designations, EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0003, located at www.regulations.gov, and sending a copy to EPA Region 1. EPA also will publish a notice in the *Federal Register* announcing a 30-day comment period for the public to provide input on EPA's intended designations.

Connecticut has recommended a statewide designation of attainment. In considering your recommendation, we have taken into account all available information, including any current (2014-2016) air monitoring data and any air dispersion modeling analyses provided by Connecticut or by a third party.³ We intend to designate the entire state as unclassifiable/attainment. This statewide area includes areas for which EPA regulations for implementing the SO₂ NAAQS require Connecticut to

¹ Connecticut also provided information relevant to these designations in a letter dated December 8, 2016.

² *Sierra Club v. McCarthy*, No. 3-13-cv-3953 (SI) (N.D. Cal. Mar. 2, 2015).

³ Our intended designated areas include all areas of Indian country located in each of the indicated areas.

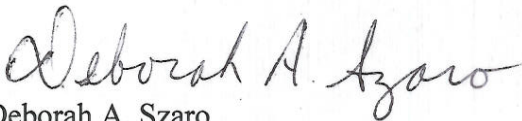
characterize SO₂ air quality by modeling or monitoring. In addition, the intended statewide unclassifiable/attainment area includes areas that were not required to be characterized but for which Connecticut provided information informing our intended designation for these areas. Our review of this information indicates that it is consistent with your recommendation. The enclosure to this letter provides the information that supports the intended designation decision for Connecticut.⁴

Unclassifiable/Attainment Area	Included Counties
State of Connecticut	Fairfield County, Hartford County, Litchfield County, Middlesex County, New Haven County, New London County, Tolland County, Windham County

EPA will promulgate the final designations for the areas identified in this letter by December 31, 2017. We are prepared to work with you to resolve any disagreements with respect to the available information or information gaps. Upon the completion of this designation action, there will be no remaining areas in Connecticut to be designated.

We share your goal to provide cleaner air for citizens in your state. We look forward to a continued dialogue with you and your staff as we work together to complete the area designations and implement the 2010 primary SO₂ NAAQS. For additional information regarding designations under the SO₂ NAAQS, please visit our website at www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me, or have your staff contact Leiran Biton of my staff at 617-918-1267 or biton.leiran@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Deborah A. Szaro
Acting Regional Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Robert Klee, Commissioner, CT DEEP
Anne Gobin, Chief, Bureau of Air Management, CT DEEP

⁴ The enclosure is Chapter 8 of the Technical Support Document (TSD) for the designations EPA plans to complete by December 31, 2017 that addresses areas in Connecticut. The TSD is also available at www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations.