



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 12 2021

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Melanie Loyzim
Commissioner
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
7 State House Station
28 Tyson Drive
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017

Dear Ms. Loyzim:

I am responding to your August 20, 2020, letter petitioning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to opt out of the federal Reformulated Gasoline program for the counties of York, Cumberland, Androscoggin, Sagadahoc, Kennebec, Knox and Lincoln (the Southern Maine Area). These counties are part of the Portland and Midcoast maintenance areas for the 1997 ozone national ambient air-quality standard.

Maine has complied with the requirements in the EPA's regulations by submitting an opt-out request and state implementation plan revision to demonstrate that the affected area would continue to attain the ozone and all other NAAQS without reformulated gasoline's being sold. As such, the EPA has approved the state's petition in a separate action to be published in the *Federal Register*, and the EPA has worked with Maine to ensure a smooth transition.

As a result of the approval of your petition, federal reformulated gasoline will no longer be required in the Southern Maine Area as of September 30, 2021. The *Federal Register* notice will also be made publicly available on the EPA's website soon after signature. The notice serves to inform the public of the September 30, 2021, effective date of the opt-out.

If you have further questions or concerns, your staff may contact Casey Katims, EPA's Deputy Associate Administrator for Intergovernmental Relations at katims.casey@epa.gov.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael S. Regan".

Michael S. Regan

cc: Ms. Deborah Szaro
Acting Region 1 Administrator