

March 27, 2024

Mr. Douglas A. McWilliams Squire Patton Boggs (US), LLP 1000 Key Tower 127 Public Square Cleveland Ohio 44114

Dear Mr. McWilliams:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the August 4, 2023, petition you submitted on behalf of ALLETE Inc. d/b/a Minnesota Power; Northern States Power Company – Minnesota; Great River Energy; Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency; Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc.; and United States Steel Corporation (collectively the "Minnesota Good Neighbor Coalition"). This petition asks the EPA to reconsider its Good Neighbor Plan for the 2015 ozone national ambient air-quality standards for Minnesota. The plan, promulgated March 15, 2023, established emissions-reduction requirements through federal implementation plan requirements for sources in 23 states under Clean Air Act section 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(I).

After careful consideration the EPA is partially denying the petition for the reasons explained in the enclosure titled, "The EPA's Basis for Partially Denying Petitions for Reconsideration of the Good Neighbor Plan on Grounds Related to Judicial Stays of the SIP Disapproval Action as to 12 States."

If you have any questions, my colleague Tom Uher in the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards would be pleased to assist you and is available at uher.thomas@epa.gov or (919) 541-5534.

Sincerely yours,

Michael S. Regan