



Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

February 7, 2025

Karen McGuire
Acting Regional Administrator
USEPA Region I New England
5 Post Office Square
Mail Code: OSA01-4
Boston, MA 02109-3912

RE: Maine's Area Designation Recommendation for the 2024 Revised Primary Annual Fine Particle National Ambient Air Quality Standard

Dear Ms. McGuire,

I am pleased to submit Maine's recommended designation for the 2024 revised primary annual fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). Section 107(d)(1)(A) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) provides up to one year after adoption of new or revised NAAQS for states to submit recommendations identifying areas that violate or contribute to nearby violations of the revised NAAQS.

Maine's Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) has monitored PM_{2.5} as prescribed by 40 CFR Part 58. Monitored data demonstrates compliance and is summarized in the Technical Support Document for Maine's Recommendation for the 9.0 µg/m³ annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS.

Consistent with Section 107(d)(1)(A) of the CAA and EPA guidance, Maine recommends that the entire state of Maine be designated as "attainment" for the annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS.

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation. I have asked Jeff Crawford, Director of the Bureau of Air Quality, to be available (207) 242-3414 to answer any questions you may have regarding the recommended designation and PM_{2.5} monitoring strategy.

Sincerely,

Janet T. Mills,
Governor

cc: Congressional Delegation
Lynne, Hamjian, U.S. EPA Region 1
Melanie, Loyzim, Maine DEP
Jeff Crawford, Maine DEP



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TECHNICAL SUPPORT DOCUMENT

State of Maine's Recommendations for the Primary Annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS Attainment Designations

1. INTRODUCTION

The State of Maine recommends the entire state be designated as 'attainment' for the Primary Annual PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). This document summarizes the technical analysis used to formulate this decision. The recommendations contained in this document meet requirements of Section 107(d) of the Clean Air Act (CAA).

2. RATIONALE FOR ATTAINMENT CLASSIFICATION

The National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter final rule, as published in the Federal Register on March 6, 2024, requires quality assured monitored data. The State of Maine is recommending that the entire state be designated attainment based on an analysis of certified, quality assured data from 2021 to 2023, which was downloaded from AQS on November 6, 2024. Data analysis met all applicable handling conventions as prescribed in sections 3 and 4 of Appendix N to 40 CFR Part 50 "Interpretation of the NAAQS for PM_{2.5}."

Table 1 summarizes PM_{2.5} quality assured monitoring data from locations in Maine (see Figure 1). The Lewiston monitor is located in the parking lot of the Country Kitchen bakery on Canal Street. Presque Isle has two monitoring sites: one on Riverside Drive in a downtown Presque Isle parking lot, and the Regional Office site at the Maine Department of Environmental Protection's Northern Maine Regional Office on Central Drive. Portland is Maine's largest city and also has two monitoring sites: one at Tukey's Bridge and the other at Deering Oaks Park. The McFarland Hill site is located in Acadia National Park. In Augusta, the site is on the roof of the Lincoln Street School. In Rumford, the monitor is located in a paper mill employee parking lot off Rumford Avenue. Bangor's monitor is located on the roof of the Mary Snow School. These sites are all operated by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

3. RECOMMENDED ATTAINMENT AREAS IN MAINE

Maine's PM_{2.5} monitoring data demonstrates compliance with the Primary Annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS. Therefore, the State of Maine respectfully recommends that the entire state be designated Attainment for the Primary Annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS.

Table 1: Valid Annual Design Value for PM_{2.5}

Site Name	2019-2021 Annual DESIGN VALUE	2020-2022 Annual DESIGN VALUE	2021-2023 Annual DESIGN VALUE
Lewiston	5.5	5.3	5.3
Madawaska	5.6	n/a*	5.5
Presque Isle - Regional Office	4.0	4.0	3.9
Presque Isle - Riverside Drive	4.4	4.4	4.9
Portland - Tukey's Bridge	6.8	6.5	7.0
Portland - Deering Oaks	7.1	5.8	5.3
McFarland Hill	3.2	3.2	3.7
Augusta	n/a*	5.6	5.8
Rumford	5.1	5.1	5.3
Bangor	4.4	4.5	4.8
Statewide Maximum	7.1	6.5	7.0

*n/a indicates the monitor wasn't operating long enough during that design value period to generate a design value

Figure 1: Maine PM 2.5 Monitoring Network

