



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

February 14, 2025

Karen McGuire, Acting Regional Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency Region I
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Re: Rhode Island's Recommendations for Air Quality Designations for the 2024 Revised Primary Annual Fine Particle Standard

Dear Acting Regional Administrator McGuire:

On February 7, 2024, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promulgated a revised primary annual PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) (89 FR 16202). The EPA strengthened the primary annual PM_{2.5} standard from 12.0 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m³) to 9.0 µg/m³. Clean Air Act Section 107(d)(1)(A) requires states to submit area designation recommendations to EPA after the promulgation of a new or revised NAAQS.

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 107(d)(1)(A) of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, Rhode Island is hereby submitting its recommendation for the State's attainment status designation for the 2024 revised NAAQS for PM_{2.5}. An area is designated as nonattainment if one or more regulatory ambient PM_{2.5} air quality monitors have a design value greater than the annual standard of 9.0 µg/m³.

The annual PM_{2.5} design values, based on certified ambient air quality data from the most recent three calendar year period (2021-2023), from all regulatory monitors that are sited and operated in accordance with 40 CFR part 58 in Rhode Island are as follows:

Site	County	PM _{2.5} Design Value (2021-2023) µg/m ³
Alton Jones, West Greenwich (44-003-0002)	Kent	4.9
CCRI, Providence (44-007-0022)	Providence	6.3
Francis School, East Providence (44-007-1010)	Providence	6.6

Acting Regional Administrator McGuire

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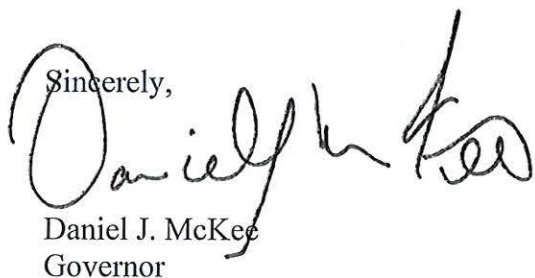
Page 2

Site	County	PM _{2.5} Design Value (2021-2023) μg/m ³
Near Road (44-007-0030)	Providence	8.2 ¹
Vernon Street, Pawtucket (44-007-0026)	Providence	7.7
US EPA Lab, Narragansett (44-009-0007)	Washington	5.1

The design values calculated for Rhode Island show all sites in Rhode Island are in attainment of the revised primary annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS. Rhode Island is therefore recommending that all counties in Rhode Island be designated as attainment for the revised primary annual PM_{2.5} standard.

If you have any questions about this issue, I encourage you to contact Karen Slattery, Deputy Administrator, at the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management's Office of Air Resources at (401) 537-4396 or karen.slattery@dem.ri.gov.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. McKee
Governor

¹ Note this design value is for 2019—2021 as the Near Rd. site did not have complete data for 2021-2023 due to the site moving to a new location in 2022.