



Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

January 24, 2025

Cheryl Newton
Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604-3507

Subject: Designation of 2024 Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Areas in Wisconsin

Dear Acting Regional Administrator Newton:

On February 7, 2024, the EPA promulgated a revised primary annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS, strengthening that standard from 12.0 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m³) to 9.0 µg/m³. I am sending this letter in accordance with section 107(d)(1)(A) of the Clean Air Act, which requires the governor of each state to submit designation recommendations within one year from the date of promulgation of a new federal standard.

I am pleased to recommend that all counties in the State of Wisconsin, excluding tribal lands and territories, be designated as “attainment” for the 2024 PM_{2.5} NAAQS. This recommendation is based on certified air monitoring data collected by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from 2021 to 2023. This data shows attainment of the 2024 PM_{2.5} NAAQS statewide, once specific measurements associated with the 2023 Canadian wildfires have been considered by the EPA, as allowed by the act.¹ Preliminary monitoring data from 2024 also shows continued statewide attainment of the standard.

The tools and resources developed by the EPA to support the revised PM_{2.5} NAAQS allowed Wisconsin to address some state-specific implementation challenges related to the new standard. In particular, the regulatory and technical products created to assist states to appropriately consider PM_{2.5} contributions from wildfire smoke events were valuable. That said, allowing appropriate time for industries to prepare to implement the revised standard avoids risks to U.S. competitiveness, jobs, and expansions, including here in Wisconsin.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the State of Wisconsin’s recommendations on this important air quality matter. If you have any questions, please contact Gail Good, Director of the DNR Air Management Program, at (608) 219-2690.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tony Evers".

Tony Evers
Governor

cc: John Mooney, EPA Region 5
Karen Hyun, Secretary, DNR
Steven Little, Deputy Secretary, DNR
Bart Sponseller, Deputy Division Administrator – Environmental Management Division, DNR
Gail Good, Director, Air Management Program, DNR

ⁱ The DNR submitted an exceptional event demonstration to EPA for these wildfires on November 22, 2024