



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

JUL 18 2011

The Honorable Doug Domenech
Secretary of Natural Resources
Commonwealth of Virginia
Patrick Henry Building
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Secretary Domenech:

Thank you for the June 2, 2011 letter from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VADEQ) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). EPA appreciates the effort that VADEQ made to develop these recommendations for area designations in the Commonwealth of Virginia under the 2010 revised National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for sulfur dioxide (SO₂). This is an important step toward meeting the 2010 revised SO₂ NAAQS.

EPA will review the recommendations and work with the VADEQ to determine the final designations. No later than 120 days prior to the final designations, EPA will notify VADEQ of the intended final designations as well as instances where EPA modified any of the initial designation recommendations. EPA is required to promulgate the final designations no later than two years after the SO₂ NAAQS was revised unless there is insufficient information. Those areas with sufficient information will be designated no later than June 3, 2012.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact Mrs. LaRonda Koffi, EPA's Virginia Liaison at (215) 814-5374.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn M. Garvin".

Shawn M. Garvin
Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. David K. Paylor, Director
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality