



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

John Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

JUN 3 2011

Ms. Susan Hedman
Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region 5
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Re: PM_{2.5} Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan for the 1997 PM_{2.5} Annual Standard for the Columbus Area

Dear Administrator Hedman:

I am writing to formally request a redesignation to attainment of the Columbus area (Delaware, Licking, Fairfield, and Franklin Counties and Franklin Township in Coshocton County) with respect to the 1997 PM_{2.5} annual standard. The enclosed submittal combines the redesignation request and the required maintenance plan for this area.

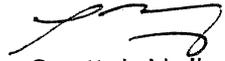
Monitoring of existing air quality indicates that the 1997 National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for PM_{2.5} has been attained throughout this area based on 2008-2010 air quality data. Emissions projections indicate that current controls, existing State rules, existing federal rules, and Ohio's PSD program will be more than sufficient to maintain the NAAQS indefinitely into the future. These programs will, therefore, constitute the attainment and maintenance plan for the Columbus area.

The enclosed information, compiled by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), Ohio Department of Transportation, and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), shows significant emission reductions in point and mobile sources since ambient exceedances have occurred. A significant portion of the improved air quality can be attributed to federal programs for the mobile source sector, the regional reductions associated with the NOx Trading Program, and the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR).

Ohio EPA notified the public of the draft and the opportunity to provide comments on March 14, 2011. The public hearing for this package was held on April 21, 2011, in Columbus, Ohio.

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Hunter in our Division of Air Pollution Control at (614) 644-3696.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott J. Nally". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "S" and a long horizontal stroke.

Scott J. Nally
Director

Enclosure

