



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

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

APR 16 2012

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

Re: PM_{2.5} Redesignation Request for the 1997 PM_{2.5} Annual Standard for the Wheeling,
WV-OH Area

Dear Administrator Hedman:

I am writing to formally request a redesignation to attainment of the Ohio portion of the Wheeling, WV-OH area (Belmont County, Ohio) 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 Wheeling area.

The enclosed information, compiled by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Transportation (Ohio DOT), the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP), and the West Virginia Department of Transportation (WVDOT), 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 NO_x Trading Program, and the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR).

Ohio EPA notified the public of the draft and the opportunity to provide comments on February, 29 2012. This notice was also published in a newspaper of general circulation in Martins Ferry, Ohio. The public hearing for this package was held on April 5, 2012 in Martins Ferry, Ohio. No testimony was provided, nor were any comments received.

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Dines 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 trailing flourish.

Scott J. Nally
Director

Cc: Bob Hodanbosi, Chief, Division of Air Pollution Control, Ohio EPA

Enclosure