UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

DEC - 3 2003

Honorable Brenda Commander
Chief
Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
88 Bell Road
Littleton, ME 04730

Dear Chief Commander:

We want to make you aware that EPA is proceeding to make air quality designation for the 8-hour national health-based standard for ground-level ozone. We have reviewed information on air quality in your area and consistent with Section 107(d)(1) of the Clean Air Act (CAA), this letter is to inform you that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) intends to designate your lands as meeting the 8 hour ozone health standard. The EPA is obligated by the CAA to designate air quality for all areas of the United States, including Indian country.

EPA is giving Tribal leaders the opportunity for consultation. Consistent with Executive Orders and EPA policy, EPA intends to make tribes aware of EPA actions, even if tribes have not participated in the designations process. Accordingly, we sent a letter on April 11, 2003 to inform you about the designations process and to invite consultation with you. If you wish to provide additional information about your Tribal lands, please provide this information by December 31, 2003, so that we can move forward to make final designations by April 15, 2004.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or have your staff call Mr. David Conroy of my staff at (617) 918-1661.

Very truly yours,

Hope to see you soon!

Bob

Robert W. Varney
Regional Administrator

cc: Sharri Venno, Environmental Planner