UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8
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Ref: 8P-AR

APR 17 2003

Mr. Howard D. Richards, Sr., Chairman
Southern Ute Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 737
Ignacio, Colorado 81137

Dear Chairman Richards:

Thank you for your recent letter dated February 25, 2003 providing the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's recommendation on the air quality designation for the national health based standard for ground-level ozone, a major constituent of smog. Your letter is an important step toward providing tribal members with information about air quality in their community. We intend to carefully review your recommendation and work with you and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's environmental program staff as necessary in determining a final designation.

We look forward to working with you throughout this 8-hour ozone designations process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Richard Long, Director of our Air and Radiation Program, at (303) 312-6005. You or your staff may also contact Tim Russ, at (303) 312-6479, or Monica Morales, at (303) 312-6936, Air and Radiation Program staff, with any questions. For your convenience you may contact my staff toll-free at 1-800-227-8917.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Roberts
Regional Administrator

cc: Fran King Brown (Environmental Programs Director, Southern Ute Tribe)
Virgil Frazier (Air Program Manager, Southern Ute Tribe)

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