

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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June 2, 2011

Mr. Dennis J. McLerran Regional Administrator U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle WA, 98101-3140

RE: National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Sulfur Dioxide - WA State Designations

Dear Mr. McLerran:

Thank you for your April 4, 2011, letter requesting submission of the state of Washington's recommended designations for the new primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) by June 3, 2011.

On June 3, 2010, the EPA Administrator signed the final rule establishing a new 1-hour primary SO₂ NAAQS of 75 parts per billion (ppb) to protect public health. The rule was published in the <u>Federal Register</u> on June 22, 2010 (75 FR 35520). The Clean Air Act provides each state with an opportunity to recommend designations of attainment (meets the NAAQS), nonattainment (does not meet the NAAQS), or unclassifiable (insufficient information) for all areas of the state.

The Director of the Washington State Department of Ecology has been designated by the Governor with responsibility for the state implementation plan under the Clean Air Act. As the designee of the Governor, I recommend that the entire state of Washington be designated unclassifiable. The state of Washington does not have any ambient monitoring data and air quality modeling analysis that can serve as a basis for designations.

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If you have questions about the recommendation, please contact Doug Schneider of my staff at (360) 407-6874 or doug.schneider@ecy.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Ted Sturdevant

Director

cc: Steve Body, Region 10 EPA

Stu Clark – Ecology, Air Quality Program Manager Laurie Hulse-Moyer – Ecology, Air Quality Program

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Mike Ragan – Ecology, Air Quality Program

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Washington Air Quality Managers Group