



TERRY E. BRANSTAD
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KIM REYNOLDS
LT. GOVERNOR

November 4, 2015

Mark J. Hague
Acting Regional Administrator
Region 7, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
11201 Renner Blvd
Lenexa, KS 66219

Dear Acting Administrator Hague:

New information shows that the air quality in Des Moines, Wapello, and Woodbury Counties meets the sulfur dioxide National Ambient Air quality Standard. With this letter I am amending my previous recommendation and now recommend a classification of "attainment" for Des Moines, Wapello, and Woodbury Counties in Iowa.

On June 2, 2011, I recommended that those three counties, among others, be designated "unclassifiable." This recommendation was made prior to the March 2, 2015, federal consent decree. EPA must finalize designations by July 2, 2016, for areas containing any source that meets criteria stated in the federal consent decree.

In the March 20, 2015, letter to Chuck Gipp, Director of the Iowa Department of Natural Resource, EPA identified three sources in Iowa as meeting the consent decree criteria: Burlington Generating Station, Ottumwa Generation Station, and George Neal South, located in Des Moines, Wapello, and Woodbury Counties, respectively.

The technical information provided in the attached document supports a designation recommendation of "attainment" for Des Moines, Wapello, and Woodbury Counties.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry E. Branstad".

Terry E. Branstad
Governor of Iowa