



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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\*\*\*\*\*DRAFT DO NOT CITE OR QUOTE\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*FOR DISCUSSION ONLY AT MWAQC TAC\*\*\*\*\*

Ms. Diana Esher, Director  
Air Protection Division (3AP00)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Reference: Withdrawal of the Virginia Portion of 1997 PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS Attainment SIP  
Revision for the Washington DC-MD-VA Nonattainment Area

Dear Ms. Esher:

On April 4, 2008, Virginia officially requested approval of a revision to the Commonwealth of Virginia State Implementation Plan (SIP). The revision demonstrated the improvements made to the air quality in the Washington DC-MD-VA Nonattainment Area (the Area) and the efforts taken to achieve the 1997 national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for PM<sub>2.5</sub> by 2009. This SIP revision for the Washington DC-MD-VA area included (i) the attainment plan, (ii) analysis of reasonably available control measures, (iii) attainment demonstration, (iv) contingency plans for failure to attain the air quality standard, (v) mobile source budgets, and (vi) the base year 2002 air pollutant emissions inventory.

Air quality has significantly improved in the Washington DC-MD-VA area. On January 12, 2009 (74 FR 1146), EPA determined that the Area had attained the NAAQS and issued a clean data determination for the Area. This determination suspended the requirements for the Commonwealth to submit attainment demonstrations and associated reasonably available control measures, reasonable further progress plans, contingency measures, and other planning SIPs related to attainment of the NAAQS in the Area. The purpose of this letter is to withdraw these portions of the April 4, 2008 submittal. Specifically, the Commonwealth hereby withdraws the (i) attainment plan, (ii) analysis of reasonably available control measures, (iii) attainment demonstration, (iv) contingency plans for failure to attain the air quality standard, and (v) mobile source budgets, all of which were submitted on April 4, 2008. To ensure that Virginia has met

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the requirements of Section 172(c)(3) of the Clean Air Act regarding inventory submittals, the Commonwealth is not requesting the withdrawal of the base year 2002 air pollutant emissions inventory, which comprised Chapter 3 and Appendix B of the April 4, 2008, document

As a related matter, Virginia, in cooperation with the District of Columbia, Maryland, and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, is developing a redesignation request and maintenance plan for the Washington DC-MD-VA area with respect to the 1997 PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS. This request and plan, which will contain mobile vehicle emissions budgets developed using MOVES2010, is expected to be ready for final submittal to EPA in 2012.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Michael G. Dowd, Air Division Director by email at [Michael.Dowd@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Michael.Dowd@deq.virginia.gov) or by telephone at 804-698-4284.

Sincerely,

David K. Paylor

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