



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 14 2016

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Robert J. Klee
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Dear Mr. Klee:

Thank you for your letter dated June 1, 2016, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, transmitting on behalf of the state of Connecticut, a petition under section 126 of the Clean Air Act (CAA). In your petition, you request that the EPA finds that emissions from the Brunner Island Generation Station located in York County, Pennsylvania are significantly contributing to nonattainment or interfering with maintenance of the 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) in Connecticut. The Administrator asked me to respond on her behalf to acknowledge receipt of your state's petition.

As an initial matter, and as we have notified your office, I note that we extended the deadline for acting on the petition to six months, as allowed under CAA section 307(d)(10). As we have for other section 126 petitions, we determined that the 60-day period provided for under CAA section 126(b) is insufficient to complete the technical and other analyses and public notice-and-comment process required for our review of the petition.

I want to assure you that the EPA will carefully consider your petition as we continue our efforts to address transported emissions. We recognize the contribution of transported ozone to air quality in Connecticut, and we are currently acting to address this in several ways, in addition to considering your petition. First, we are committed to finalizing our update to the Cross State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) by this summer. The CSAPR Update Rule will provide near-term air quality benefits by reducing nitrogen oxide emissions in the eastern United States by 2017 to address interstate transport requirements for the 2008 ozone NAAQS. Second, we are evaluating additional efforts beyond the CSAPR Update Rule that will be necessary to fully address interstate transport for the 2008 ozone NAAQS and for the recent 2015 ozone NAAQS. These efforts include collaborative discussions with states throughout the eastern U.S. And, third, we understand the importance of federal measures to reduce NOx emissions. For example, the EPA's Tier 3 vehicle emissions and fuel standards set in 2014 will reduce NOx emissions from passenger cars and light-duty trucks by more than 80% and from heavy-duty vehicles by more than 60% beginning in 2017.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Anna Marie Wood, wood.anna@epa.gov, of the Office of Air Quality and Standards at (919) 541-3604.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. G. McCabe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator