



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
RICHARD A. LEOPOLD, DIRECTOR

February 11, 2009

William Rice
Acting Regional Administrator
US EPA, Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, KS

Dear Mr. Rice:

As you know, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed a rule dated December 22, 2008 designating all areas in the United States with respect to the 2006 PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards. In that rule, EPA designated portions of Scott and Muscatine Counties in Iowa as nonattainment, based on Federal Reference Method (FRM) monitoring data collected during 2005-2007 (pages 92-93 of the rule posted on EPA's PM designation web site). In the preamble to the rule, EPA stated that it would consider changes in designations, if appropriate, prior to the effective date of the rule, based on 2008 data certified by the state and timely submitted to EPA.

By letter dated January 26, 2009, Catharine Fitzsimmons of my staff certified the 2008 data, for all FRM monitors located in Scott and Muscatine Counties, pursuant to applicable EPA regulations. The data have been submitted for review by your staff.

Based on our review, we believe that the monitoring data collected during 2006-2008 demonstrate that all of Scott and Muscatine Counties should be designated attainment. Therefore, we request that EPA change the designations with respect to the applicable portions of those counties from nonattainment to attainment.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have questions, please contact Catharine Fitzsimmons at (515) 281-8034.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard A. Leopold". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard A. Leopold
Director