UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

DEC 3 2003

Honorable John Elias Baldacci
State of Maine
Office of the Governor
1 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Governor Baldacci:

We have reviewed your July 15, 2003 letter submitting Maine's recommendations on air quality designations for the 8-hour national health based standard for ground-level ozone, a major constituent of smog. Consistent with the Clean Air Act, Section 107(d)(1), this letter is to inform you that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) does not intend to make modifications to your recommended designations and boundaries. We will continue to work with your office as we move forward to make final designations by April 15, 2004.

The Clean Air Act defines a nonattainment area as any area that does not meet (or that contributes to ambient air quality in a nearby area that does not meet) the national primary or secondary ambient air quality standard for the pollutant. EPA guidance indicates that Maine should use the larger of the Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA), Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), or the 1-hour ozone nonattainment area as the presumptive boundary for 8-hour ozone nonattainment areas. The guidance provides 11 factors that Maine should consider in determining whether to modify the presumptive boundaries. We have reviewed your July 15, 2003 submission and believe it is consistent with our guidance.

EPA has been tracking preliminary 2003 ozone monitoring data and assessing its impact on areas' 2001-2003 design values (DVs). EPA will continue to closely review monitoring data for differences that may occur as a result of data handling procedures to determine if it might affect the State's recommended designations. It is important for Maine to expedite submittal of 2003 monitoring data to EPA so that air quality designations and classifications for the 8-hour standard will accurately reflect the State's air quality. To advance this process, please submit your final 2003 monitoring data into the Air Quality System as quickly as possible, if it has not already been done. In addition, please submit the 8-hour and 1-hour design values and the average expected 1-hour exceedance rate to David Conroy of my staff by official letter by February 6, 2004.

Both the State's and EPA's work to identify areas in attainment or in nonattainment is an important step in our joint commitment to achieving clear air in our Region. We look forward to

working with Maine as we proceed to finalize the designations for the 8-hour ozone standard. We appreciate your efforts and will review any future supporting information the State wishes to submit, keeping in mind that EPA will promulgate designations by April 15, 2004. Also, please note that EPA will be addressing designations of Indian country lands through a concurrent process with the Tribes in Maine.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or have your staff call Mr. David Conroy of my staff at (617) 918-1661.

Very truly yours,

Bob

Robert W. Varney
Regional Administrator

cc: Dawn Gallagher, ME DEP
James Brooks, ME DEP

Enclosure

Governor - Jim Brooks did a great job working with us on the designation issue. He is a strong advocate for Maine's interests. All my best to you and your family during the holiday season. - Bob

Enclosure

The following table identifies the areas within Maine that EPA intends to designate as nonattainment. These are consistent with Maine's recommendations of July 15, 2003. Where EPA intends to include only part of a county in a nonattainment area, we have indicated the boundaries of the portion of the county that will be included. EPA intends to designate as attainment/unclassifiable all counties or parts thereof not identified in the table below.

Area	**Maine Recommended Nonattainment Cities and Towns in Area**	**EPA Nonattainment Cities and Towns in Area (Identical to Maine recommendation)**
Southwest Maine Coast Area	York County (includes only the following cities and towns): Alfred, Arundel, Berwick, Biddeford, Buxton, Dayton, Elliot, Hollis, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Kittery, Limington, Lyman, North Berwick, Ogunquit, Old Orchard Beach, Saco, Sanford, South Berwick, Wells, and York Cumberland County (includes only the following cities and towns): Brunswick, Cape Elizabeth, Casco, Cumberland, Falmouth, Freeport, Frye Island, Gorham, Gray, Harpswell, Long Island, New Gloucester, North Yarmouth, Portland, Pownal, Raymond, Scarborough, South Portland, Standish, Westbrook, Windham, and Yarmouth Sagadahoc County (includes all cities and towns) Androscoggin County (includes only the following town): Durham	York County (includes only the following cities and towns): Alfred, Arundel, Berwick, Biddeford, Buxton, Dayton, Elliot, Hollis, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Kittery, Limington, Lyman, North Berwick, Ogunquit, Old Orchard Beach, Saco, Sanford, South Berwick, Wells, and York Cumberland County (includes only the following cities and towns): Brunswick, Cape Elizabeth, Casco, Cumberland, Falmouth, Freeport, Frye Island, Gorham, Gray, Harpswell, Long Island, New Gloucester, North Yarmouth, Portland, Pownal, Raymond, Scarborough, South Portland, Standish, Westbrook, Windham, and Yarmouth Sagadahoc County (includes all cities and towns) Androscoggin County (includes only the following town): Durham

Area	Maine Recommended Nonattainment Cities and Towns in Area	EPA Nonattainment Cities and Towns in Area (Identical to Maine recommendation)
Central Maine Coast Area	Hancock County (includes only the following cities and towns): Bar Harbor, Blue Hill, Brooklin, Brooksville, Cranberry Isles, Deer Isle, Frenchboro, Gouldsboro, Hancock, Lamoine, Mount Desert, Sedgwick, Sorrento, Southwest Harbor, Stonington, Sullivan, Surry, Swans Island, Tremont, Trenton, and Winter Harbor Waldo County (includes only the following town):Islesboro Knox County (includes only the following cities and towns): Camden, Criehaven, Cushing, Friendship, Isle au Haut, Matinicus Isle, Muscle Ridge Shoals, North Haven, Owls Head, Rockland, Rockport, St. George, South Thomaston, Thomaston, Vinalhaven, and Warren Lincoln County (includes only the following cities and towns): Alna, Boothbay, Boothbay Harbor, Breman, Bristol, Damariscotta, Dresden, Edgecomb, Monhegan, Newcastle, Nobleboro, South Bristol, Southport, Waldoboro, Westport, and Wiscasset	Hancock County (includes only the following cities and towns): Bar Harbor, Blue Hill, Brooklin, Brooksville, Cranberry Isles, Deer Isle, Frenchboro, Gouldsboro, Hancock, Lamoine, Mount Desert, Sedgwick, Sorrento, Southwest Harbor, Stonington, Sullivan, Surry, Swans Island, Tremont, Trenton, and Winter Harbor Waldo County (includes only the following town):Islesboro Knox County (includes only the following cities and towns): Camden, Criehaven, Cushing, Friendship, Isle au Haut, Matinicus Isle, Muscle Ridge Shoals, North Haven, Owls Head, Rockland, Rockport, St. George, South Thomaston, Thomaston, Vinalhaven, and Warren Lincoln County (includes only the following cities and towns): Alna, Boothbay, Boothbay Harbor, Breman, Bristol, Damariscotta, Dresden, Edgecomb, Monhegan, Newcastle, Nobleboro, South Bristol, Southport, Waldoboro, Westport, and Wiscasset