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DIRK KEMPTHORNE
GOVERNOR

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cc: OAQ

April 15, 2003

L. John Iani, Regional Administrator
US EPA Region 10
1200 Sixth Ave.
Seattle WA 98101

Subject: Ozone Designations for State of Idaho

Dear Mr. Iani:

I am responding to your request that Idaho submit updated area designation recommendations related to the 8-hour ozone national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS).

Idaho DEQ has three ozone monitoring sites in the Treasure Valley. The National Park Service also operates an ozone monitor at the Craters of the Moon National Monument (part of the IMPROVE network).

Results of the ambient monitoring at Craters of the Moon allows Idaho to recommend that the airsheds of the Upper Snake River Plain be designated as attaining the 8-hour ozone NAAQS. Three full years of data (2000 - 2002) exist to support this recommendation.

For Boise and the Treasure Valley Airshed, ozone monitoring has been ongoing for two years (2001 and 2002). Although monitoring data suggest to date that Boise and the Treasure Valley airshed will meet the 8-hour ozone NAAQS, we do not have the required three years of data to determine attainment. We have had in 2002 periodic exceedances but are taking actions to limit those occurrences in conjunction with local governments. Idaho recommends that Boise and the Treasure Valley airshed be given unclassified status. We will provide the 2003 ozone monitoring data to you no later than February 1, 2004. At this time, the state hopes to be able to recommend an attainment designation for Boise and the Treasure Valley. The remainder of Idaho's airsheds should be designated as unclassified.

If EPA has any further questions or concerns, please coordinate through Robert Wilkosz, Program Manager, Mobile and Area Source Program, in the Air Quality Division of DEQ (208/ 373-0302).

Sincerely,

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
Governor