UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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Ref: 8P-AR

AUG 14 2003

Steven M. Pirner, Secretary
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
PMB 2020, Joe Foss Bldg.
523 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-3182

Dear Mr. ~~Pirner~~: Steve

Thank you for your letter dated April 15, 2003, that provided South Dakota's recommendation on air quality designations for the 8-hour national health-based standard for ground level ozone, a major constituent of smog. Your letter is an important step toward providing the citizens of South Dakota with critical information about air pollution levels in their community. With the passage of our July 15, 2003, submittal milestone, we have now entered into the analysis phase of these recommendations on a national basis. We intend to carefully review your recommendation and work with you and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in determining final designations.

We look forward to working with South Dakota throughout this designation process for the 8-hour ozone standard. If you have any questions, please contact me or Richard Long, Director of our Air and Radiation Program, at (303) 312-6005. Your staff may also wish to contact Tim Russ, Air and Radiation Program staff, at (303) 312-6479. For your convenience you may contact my staff toll-free at 1-800-227-8917.

Sincerely,

R. Roberts

Robert E. Roberts
Regional Administrator

cc: Brian Gustafson, Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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