



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

*We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.*

*Mitchell E. Daniels Jr.*  
Governor


*Thomas W. Easterly*  
Commissioner

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August 14, 2009

Ms. Cheryl L. Newton, Director  
Air and Radiation Division  
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, IL 60604-3950

Re: Clean Data Finding for the Northwestern and  
Southwestern Indiana Annual Fine Particle Nonattainment  
Areas

  
Dear Ms. Newton:

On April 3, 2008, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) submitted final annual fine particle Redesignation Petitions and Maintenance Plans for Northwestern Indiana, consisting of Lake and Porter counties, and Southwestern Indiana, consisting of Dubois, Vanderburgh and Warrick counties, Montgomery Township in Gibson County, Ohio Township in Spencer County and Washington Township in Pike County. After recent discussions with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), IDEM understands that U.S. EPA will be issuing Clean Data Findings for these nonattainment areas in lieu of issuing Findings of Failure to submit attainment demonstrations. While U.S. EPA has had all the necessary and required information and air quality data to approve these two Redesignation Petitions and Maintenance Plans for well over one year, U.S. EPA has failed to do so, necessitating a Clean Data Finding to avoid issuing a Findings Letter.

Concurrent with issuing the Clean Data Findings, it is our understanding that U.S. EPA will continue to work cooperatively with the State of Indiana in reviewing and resolving any remaining concerns associated with the aforementioned redesignation petitions and maintenance plans. It is very important to the State of Indiana for the U.S. EPA to progress with its review and approval of these submissions.

IDEM requests that U.S. EPA proceed promptly with final review and approval of the Redesignation Petition and Maintenance Plans for the Northwestern and Southwestern Indiana fine particle nonattainment areas following the timely issuance of Clean Data Findings for these areas. If you have any questions regarding this matter or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me at (317) 232-8222, or [DMurray@idem.in.gov](mailto:DMurray@idem.in.gov).

Sincerely,



Daniel Murray  
Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Air Quality

cc: Jay Bortzer, U.S. EPA Region 5  
John Mooney, U.S. EPA Region 5  
Ed Doty, U.S. EPA Region 5  
Scott Deloney, IDEM-OAQ