



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1
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BOSTON, MA 02109-3912

FEB 23 2010

Amey Marrella, Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

RE: Connecticut's Regional Haze State Implementation Plan

Dear Commissioner Marrella:

As you know, on January 15, 2009, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) made a finding that the state of Connecticut failed to submit a state implementation plan (SIP) addressing Regional Haze in mandatory class I Federal areas (our Nation's National Parks and wilderness areas) as required by the Clean Air Act (CAA) and federal regulations. The Regional Haze SIP was due to EPA by December 17, 2007. As a result of this finding, EPA must within two years (that is, by January 15, 2011) either fully approve Connecticut's Regional Haze SIP or promulgate a federal implementation plan (FIP).

On November 18, 2009, the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) submitted a final Regional Haze SIP to EPA. We have reviewed Connecticut's submittal and note that it appropriately addresses many of the necessary components of a Regional Haze SIP. Connecticut has not yet, however, submitted an adopted regulation implementing the state's low sulfur fuel oil measure which was included as an element of Connecticut's long term Regional Haze strategy. This regulation must be adopted and submitted to EPA, in order for EPA to fully approve Connecticut's Regional Haze SIP.

My staff is available to assist the Connecticut DEP in this effort. If you or your staff have any questions on Regional Haze, please contact Anne McWilliams at 617-918-1697.

Sincerely,

Stephen S. Perkins, Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection

cc: Anne Gobin, CT DEP
David Wackter, CT DEP
Wendy Jacobs, CT DEP

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DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER