



June 26, 2006

Mr. Bill Wehrum
Acting Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building North, Room 5406
Mail Code: 6101A
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Regional Haze Regulations - Revisions to Provisions Governing Alternatives to Source-Specific Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Determinations

Dear Mr. Wehrum:

In April 2005, Jeff Holmstead wrote me and stated EPA's intent to issue a final rule by November 8, 2005 for alternatives to source-specific BART in response to the remand in the CEED case (see attachment).

We are now more than seven months past that date, though I understand that last month EPA sent the final rule to OMB for review and that the rule will be published upon completion of that process. I am writing to ask for your assistance with encouraging OMB to complete its review as quickly as possible and for EPA to publish the final rule as soon as possible thereafter.

Five Western states submitted the nation's first ever regional haze SIPs in December 2003, including a market-based approach to addressing sulfur dioxide emissions from large industrial sources. While the court invalidated some of the provisions on which these plans were based, the states still believe the sulfur dioxide program under Section 309 of the regional haze regulations represents good environmental policy for the West. Therefore, all five states are working on necessary revisions and intend to submit appropriately revised Section 309 plans next year.

In order to complete the revisions to our plans in a timely manner, it is critical that EPA publish the final rule on BART alternatives as soon as possible. Any help you can provide in moving the process along a bit more quickly will be greatly appreciated.

Staffed by:
Western Governors' Association
1515 Cleveland Place, Suite 200
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 623-9378
Fax (303) 534-7309

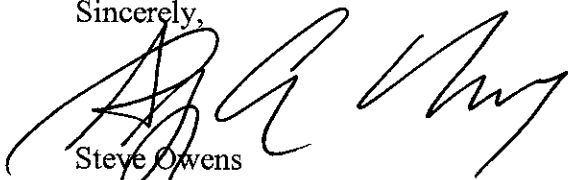
www.wrapair.org

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National Tribal Environmental Council
2221 Rio Grande NW
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(505) 242-2175
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Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. You may also contact WRAP Co-Director, Patrick Cummins, at 970-884-4770 / pcummins@westgov.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Owens", written over a printed name.

Steve Owens
Director, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and
Co-Chair, Western Regional Air Partnership

cc: John F. Morrall, OMB
Art Fraas, OMB
Bill Harnett, EPA/OAQPS