



February 6, 2015

Via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter
Office of the Governor
State Capitol
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720

**Re: Clean Air Act Petition to Redesignate Ada and Canyon Counties,
Idaho to Nonattainment for Fine Particulate Matter Pollution**

Dear Governor Otter,

I am writing on behalf of my client, the Idaho Conservation League (ICL), to provide a copy of the Clean Air Act petition submitted today by ICL to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). ICL's petition requests that EPA redesignate Ada and Canyon Counties to "nonattainment" for the 2006 primary and secondary 24-hour PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). In recent years, fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) pollution has reached unhealthy levels in Ada County and adjacent Canyon County, and available monitoring data indicates that the area is no longer in attainment with the NAAQS. Notably, PM_{2.5} pollution concentrations in Ada County are now among the highest in the nation.

Redesignation will initiate the process set forth in the Clean Air Act for bringing pollution levels back into attainment within five years or less. Ada and Canyon Counties are home to 600,000 people and Idaho's three largest cities (Boise, Nampa, and Meridian). EPA has found serious health and environmental impacts, as well as substantial costs, to be associated with high levels of fine particulate matter pollution. Until Ada and Canyon Counties are redesignated, residents of Idaho's largest metropolitan area will continue to breath unhealthy air.

As Governor of the State of Idaho, you can facilitate redesignation. Under Section 107 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 7407), you have authority to submit a redesignation to EPA either on your own motion or in response to notification from EPA that redesignation is needed. ICL respectfully requests that you begin preparing a redesignation for Ada and Canyon Counties now in order to ensure that concentrations of fine particulate matter pollution are lowered to safe levels as expeditiously as practicable.

Please contact me, or Courtney Washburn at the Idaho Conservation League ((208) 345-6933, cwashburn@idahoconservation.org), if you would like further information or would otherwise like to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,



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Encl.