UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Mr. Patrick McDonnell, Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Secretary McDonnell:

By letter and enclosure dated ???, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) submitted to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requesting concurrence with PADEP's proposal to exclude data associated with exceptional event episodes for 8-hour ozone data influenced by the Fort McMurray wildfire on May 24, 25 and 26, 2016. PADEP determined that the Fort McMurray caused elevated ozone concentrations at 43 monitors throughout Pennsylvania.

In 2016, EPA revised the Exceptional Events Rule (EER) found in §50.14 and §51.930 of 40 CFR Parts 50 and 51 of the Clean Air Act. See "Treatment of Data Influenced by Exceptional Events," 81 FR 68216 (October 3, 2016). After careful consideration of the information provided, EPA concurs on 8 monitor days, defers action on 41 monitor days, and non-concurs on 78 monitor days, based on the weight of evidence that the agency has made in the demonstrations referred to in 40 CFR 50.14(a)(2) and (b)(1). EPA's decisions are summarized in the attached table. In addition, PADEP has met the schedule and procedural requirements in section 50.14(c) with respect to the same information. The basis for our concurrence is set forth in the enclosed technical support documents. My staff has entered, or shortly will enter, "concurrence flags" for these data into EPA's Air Quality System data repository.

The 2016 rule revisions 40 CFR 50.14(a)(1)(i) limit the applicability of the EER to National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) exceedances or violations which have relevance to specific regulatory determinations by EPA. The 8-hour ozone concentrations measured at the monitors marked with "Defer" in the attached table, do not currently have regulatory significance and EPA will defer action at this time. EPA will retain PADEP's demonstrations for future consideration should any of the data on which EPA is deferring action at this time become significant for a future regulatory action.

The 8-hour ozone concentrations measured at the monitors marked with "Non-concur" in the attached table, did not have exceedances of the NAAQS on the requested dates, or do not have current or projected future regulatory significance. Exclusion of the requested 8-hour ozone data from these monitors does not result in one or more of the following:

- 2016 or 2017 design value attainment of NAAQS
- Change in 2016 4th highest 8-hour ozone concentration

Therefore, EPA non-concurs with PADEP's request for exclusion of data from these monitors.

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EPA's concurrence is a preliminary step in the regulatory process for actions that may rely on the dataset containing the event-influenced data and does not constitute final agency action. If EPA takes a regulatory action that is affected by exclusion of the ozone data for the May 24, 25 and 26, 2016 events, EPA intends to publish notice of its proposed action in the Federal Register. EPA's concurrence letter and accompanying technical support documents will be included in the record as part of the technical basis for that proposal. When EPA issues that regulatory action, it will be a final agency action subject to judicial review.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please have your staff contact M ????, EPA's Pennsylvania Liaison, at (215) 814-????. For questions regarding this approval action, your staff may contact Ms. Alice H. Chow, Associate Director of the Office of Air Monitoring & Analysis, (215) 814-2144.

Sincerely,

Cosmo Servidio
Regional Administrator

Attachment
Enclosures

Attachment:

EPA Decision	Site Name	AQS ID	8-hour Max. (ppb)	Exceedance Date
Concur	Reading Airport	420110011	79	05/25/2016
Concur	Lebanon	420750100	76	05/25/2016
Concur	Norristown	420910013	82	05/25/2016
Concur	Freemansburg	420950025	82	05/25/2016
Concur	Reading Airport	420110011	76	05/26/2016
Concur	Lebanon	420750100	72	05/26/2016
Concur	Norristown	420910013	74	05/26/2016
Concur	Freemansburg	420950025	75	05/26/2016
Defer	Kittanning	420050001	73	05/24/2016
Defer	Strongstown	420630004	71	05/24/2016
Defer	Farrell	420850100	74	05/24/2016
Defer	Tioga County	421174000	73	05/24/2016
Defer	Arendtsville	420010001	76	05/25/2016
Defer	Kittanning	420050001	75	05/25/2016
Defer	Hookstown	42007002	71	05/25/2016
Defer	Beaver Falls	420070014	72	05/25/2016
Defer	Kutztown	420110006	73	05/25/2016
Defer	Bristol	420170012	84	05/25/2016
Defer	New Garden	420290100	80	05/25/2016
Defer	Hershey	420431100	75	05/25/2016
Defer	Chester	420450002	80	05/25/2016
Defer	Erie	420490003	79	05/25/2016
Defer	Strongstown	420630004	72	05/25/2016
Defer	Peckville	420690101	79	05/25/2016
Defer	Scranton	420692006	74	05/25/2016
Defer	Lancaster	420710007	81	05/25/2016
Defer	Lancaster Downwind	420710012	73	05/25/2016
Defer	Wilkes Barre	420791101	76	05/25/2016
Defer	Montoursville	420810100	73	05/25/2016
Defer	Farrell	420850100	81	05/25/2016
Defer	Swiftwater	420890002	82	05/25/2016
Defer	Easton	420958000	80	05/25/2016
Defer	Northeast Airport	421010024	84	05/25/2016
Defer	Northeast Waste	421010048	77	05/25/2016
Defer	Tioga County	421174000	74	05/25/2016
Defer	Florence	421255001	72	05/25/2016
Defer	York	421330008	71	05/25/2016

Defer	York Downwind	421330011	75	05/25/2016
Defer	Bristol	420170012	81	05/26/2016
Defer	New Garden	420290100	73	05/26/2016
Defer	Chester	420450002	71	05/26/2016
Defer	Peckville	420690101	73	05/26/2016
Defer	Lancaster	420710007	80	05/26/2016
Defer	Allentown	420770004	73	05/26/2016
Defer	Swiftwater	420890002	72	05/26/2016
Defer	Easton	420958000	74	05/26/2016
Defer	Northeast Airport	421010024	79	05/26/2016
Defer	Northeast Waste	421010048	71	05/26/2016
Defer	York Downwind	421330011	80	05/26/2016
Non-Concur	Arendtsville	420010001	70	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Hookstown	420070002	68	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Brighton Twp	420070005	67	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Beaver Falls	420070014	69	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Kutztown	420110006	54	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Altoona	420130801	62	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Towanda	420150011	62	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Bristol	420170012	52	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Johnstown	420210011	64	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	State College	420270100	58	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Moshannon	420334000	63	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Harrisburg	420430401	55	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Hershey	420431100	57	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	New Garden	420290100	58	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Chester	420450002	54	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Erie	420490003	70	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Methodist Hill	420550001	56	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Holbrook	420590002	56	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Peckville	420690101	63	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Scranton	420692006	57	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Lancaster	420710007	59	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Lancaster Downwind	420710012	53	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	New Castle	420730015	67	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Wilkes Barre	420791101	61	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Montoursville	420810100	63	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Swiftwater	420890002	60	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Freemansburg	420950025	57	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Easton	420958000	56	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	AMS Laboratory	421010004	42	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Northeast Airport	421010024	53	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Northeast Waste	421010048	47	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Washington	421250200	58	05/24/2016

Non-Concur	Florence	421255001	64	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	York	421330008	56	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	York Downwind	421330011	58	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Reading Airport	420110011	57	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Lebanon	420750100	57	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Norristown	420910013	53	05/24/2016
Non-Concur	Brighton Twp	420070005	70	05/25/2016
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Non-Concur	AMS Laboratory	421010004	69	05/25/2016
Non-Concur	Washington	421250200	65	05/25/2016
Non-Concur	Arendtsville	420010001	65	05/26/2016
Non-Concur	Kittanning	420050001	62	05/26/2016
Non-Concur	Hookstown	420070002	54	05/26/2016
Non-Concur	Brighton Twp	420070005	49	05/26/2016
Non-Concur	Beaver Falls	420070014	51	05/26/2016
Non-Concur	Kutztown	420110006	70	05/26/2016
Non-Concur	Altoona	420130801	53	05/26/2016
Non-Concur	Towanda	420150011	60	05/26/2016
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