UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

June 2, 2014

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Steve Daines
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Daines:

Thank you for your letter of May 22, 2014 to Administrator Gina McCarthy, requesting that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency include a 120-day comment period on our proposed Clean Power Plan, also known as the Carbon Pollution Guidelines for Existing Power Plants. The Administrator has asked me to respond on her behalf.

As you know, the EPA conducted unprecedented outreach while developing this proposal. We met with stakeholders from around the country, including representatives from state and local governments, electric utilities, and civil society. Among the many creative ideas and constructive comments offered were requests similar to yours, to ensure that the comment period allowed the public sufficient time to provide meaningful input on this proposed rule.

Recognizing that the proposal asks for comment on a range of issues, some of which are complex and novel, the EPA has decided to propose this rule with a 120-day comment period. This will allow the EPA to solicit advice and information from the many stakeholders and citizens who we expect will be interested in this rulemaking, giving us the best possible information on which to base a final rule. The proposed rule, as well as information about how to comment and supporting technical information, are available online at: http://www.epa.gov/cleanpowerplan. Comments on the proposed guidelines should be identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0602.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Cheryl Mackay in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at mackay.cheryl@epa.gov or (202) 564-2023.

Sincerely,

Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator