



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

OCT 10 2014

Mr. David-Shaw
Director
Division of Air Resources
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233

Dear Mr. Shaw:

This is in response to your July 7, 2014 letter to our office requesting the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) recognition of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) efforts in monitoring ultrafines in Buffalo, New York near the Peace Bridge.

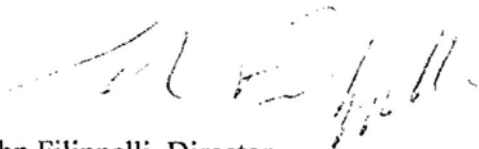
As indicated in your letter, NYSDEC is developing the second phase of air quality monitoring near the Peace Bridge. In this second phase, the NYSDEC requested the EPA's support in working with area residents, local community groups and state and local health departments to design an ultrafine particle monitoring study. You stated the primary objective of the study would be to provide additional information necessary for the EPA to establish a National Air Ambient Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ultrafine particles. EPA is supportive of NYSDEC's continued efforts in this matter, and we are ready to assist where possible. EPA can provide technical guidance as the state pursues this study. We can also facilitate discussions with experts in other EPA offices.

I would like to make one clarification regarding the timing of the study. While the information and data generated by the monitoring study could be useful in better understanding ultrafine particles, it is not clear when the results of the study would be available and whether the study could be considered in the next NAAQS evaluation. However, later this winter, EPA intends to host a kick-off workshop of the Particulate Matter NAAQS review. Following the PM NAAQS kick-off workshop, EPA intends to host a separate workshop on ultrafine particles. The intent of the ultrafine workshop would be to bring together experts in ultrafine with health scientists and others interested in using and interpreting ultrafine data. I will provide you with more details regarding both workshops, which will be open to the public, when they become available.



If you have further questions, please contact me at (212) 637-3636 or your staff can contact Mr. Karl Mangels at (212) 637-4078 or Ms. Mazeeda Khan at (212) 637-3715 of our Air Programs Branch.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Filippelli". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

John Filippelli, Director
Clean Air and Sustainability Division

cc: David Shaw, NYSDEC
Dirk Felton, NYSDEC
Brian Lay, NYSDEC
Mo SiuHong, NYSDEC