



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

FEB 26 2014

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. S. William Becker  
Executive Director  
National Association of Clean Air Agencies  
444 North Capitol Street NW, Suite 307  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. <sup>B-11</sup>~~Becker~~.

Thank you for your letter dated February 5, 2014, transmitting the document titled "NACAA-ECOS-EPA SIP Reform Workgroup Commitments and Best Practices for Addressing the SIP Backlog." The EPA and the states have been working for a number of years to improve the SIP process, with some good successes along the way. This document represents, in my view, a significant step forward in these efforts. I am so pleased that the state and federal representatives were able to identify both principles to guide our work together but also very concrete tools and actions that we can take to address pending SIPs and make the process more efficient and sustainable into the future.

I also want to thank you and the members of the workgroup for your hard work and dedication. Through this collaboration, we were able to identify actions the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the state air agencies can take to ensure timely action on SIPs, thereby improving and maintaining air quality. As a result of the workgroup's efforts, we now have improved tools, better communication and greater transparency related to the timely processing of SIPs. Please convey my appreciation to the state workgroup members, and I hope to be able to thank them personally soon.

I endorse and am very supportive of the commitments and best practices developed by the workgroup. I look forward to working together with you and our other partners at the state and local levels to begin implementing the practices, tools and strategies captured in this document.

Sincerely,

Janet G. McCabe  
Acting Assistant Administrator

A great conclusion -  
award!  
JRC