



REGIONAL AIR POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RAPCA Testifying on Improvements in Air Quality at Ohio EPA Public Meeting

Today RAPCA Supervisor, John Paul, will be offering testimony to support Ohio EPA's request to re-designate the Dayton/Springfield area to attainment for the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}). Air quality data from the years 2008-2010 show that the Dayton area is meeting the NAAQS for the 24hour PM_{2.5} NAAQS that was set in 1997. When asking for re-designation, states are required to demonstrate that the metropolitan area will be able to maintain compliance with the fine particulate standard for 10 years. Current national, state and local air pollution controls to limit particulate matter-causing emissions will enable the area to maintain the air quality. These include lower emissions from coal-burning power plants, additional controls on diesel-powered vehicles and enforcement efforts.

Mr. Paul says "air quality in the Dayton – Springfield area is the cleanest it has been in the past 30 years. We fully support this proposed attainment designation".

The proposed redesignation request affects Clark, Greene and Montgomery counties. The NAAQS for PM_{2.5} regulates tiny particles, about 1/30th the diameter of a human hair, which can lodge deep in human lungs. Particulate matter has been associated with health issues such as heart attacks, chronic bronchitis, asthma attacks and missed days of school and work.

The Ohio EPA public hearing will take place today at 1:30 p.m., at Ohio EPA's Southwest District Office, 401 E. Fifth St., Dayton.

A copy of Mr. Paul's oral testimony is available at <http://www.rapca.org/publications/Comments/Oral%20Testimony%20on%20PM%20redesignation%205-3-11.pdf>, and a copy of RAPCA's written comments are available at <http://www.rapca.org/publications/Comments/RAPCA%20Comments%20on%20Annual%20PM2%205%20Redesignation.pdf>.

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