



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

SEP 23 2015

The Honorable Ruben Balderas
President
Fort McDowell Yvapai Nation
P. O. Box 17779
Fountain Hills, Arizona 85269

Dear President Balderas

Consistent with Executive Order 13175 and the EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes, I would like to invite the Fort McDowell Yvapai Nation to consult on an action EPA is considering to reclassify the Phoenix-Mesa nonattainment area from marginal nonattainment to moderate nonattainment for the 2008 National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone. The Phoenix-Mesa area is currently classified as a marginal nonattainment area for the ozone NAAQS established in 2008. Because the area did not attain the 2008 ozone NAAQS by the July 20, 2015 attainment date, EPA is considering reclassifying the area to moderate nonattainment. Reclassification would establish a new attainment date and require a new air quality plan that would be developed by the Maricopa Association of Governments.

If approved, the reclassification would not affect the applicable major source threshold for the nonattainment new source review permitting program or the title V operating permit program. However, under the nonattainment new source review permitting program, the required offset ratio for proposed increases in emissions would increase from 1.1:1 to 1.15:1.

To ensure that the interests and concerns of the Fort McDowell Yvapai Nation are considered, I would like to invite you or your designated representative to consult with EPA. If you have questions or would like to initiate consultation, please call Colleen McKaughan at (520) 498-0118 or have your staff contact Laura Lawrence at (415) 972- 3407 or by e-mail at lawrence.laura@epa.gov. If you would like to consult with EPA, we respectfully request that you notify us by October 23, 2015.

Thank you and I look forward to receiving your input.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth J. Adams".

Elizabeth J. Adams
Acting Director, Air Division

cc: Mark Frank
Environmental Specialist