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File Code: 2580
Date: FEB 04 2011

Mr. Neal Butt
Air Quality Division—City of Albuquerque
P.O. Box 1293
One Civic Plaza
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Dear Mr. Butt:

Thank you for meeting with the United States Forest Service, Southwestern Region, on January 20, 2011, to discuss our comments regarding the City of Albuquerque-Bernalillo County draft regional haze State Implementation Plan (SIP). The written responses that you provided to the USFS on January 14, as well as our in-person consultation, provided key insight to address a number of our concerns.

As we discussed on January 20, the USFS requests that the City of Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Air Quality Division (AQD) add language clarifying the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP) 2018 model projections that show substantial growth in Bernalillo County NO_x and SO_2 emissions. The USFS feels the AQD should include an additional appendix with the latest emissions inventories to show the discrepancy between WRAP's modeled results and Bernalillo County's actual emissions. The USFS strongly recommends that AQD become involved with the WRAP in its future projects, such as West-wide Jumpstart Air Quality Modeling Study (WestJump AQMS), to ensure a better representation of Bernalillo County's emissions and to facilitate development of data products, which quantitatively elucidate potential impacts from Bernalillo County that can be used in future SIP activities.

Additionally, the USFS ask that the SIP be updated with language to direct readers to the Addendum to Appendix 2007-H, where the AQD includes a quantitative assessment of its impacts based on weighted emission potentials (WEP). Current language, such as on page 109, directs the reader to Appendix 2007-H, which provides WRAP modeling results but not the WEP assessment of impacts to Class I Areas.

Again, we appreciate the opportunity to work with AQD and taking the time to meet with us. We compliment you on your hard work and diligence in addressing our concerns regarding visibility in our National Forests and wilderness areas. Any questions that you have can be directed to our air quality specialist, Susanna Ehlers, at (505) 842-3840.

Sincerely,

for CORBIN L. NEWMAN, JR.
Regional Forester

cc: pdl r3 ro mailrooms, Susanna M Ehlers

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