



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

November 17, 2021

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Sinema:

Thank you for your letter dated October 5, 2021, to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator, Michael S. Regan, regarding EPA's proposed action to rescind the Clean Data Determination for Yuma, Arizona, for the 1987 24-hour national ambient air quality standard for particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to a nominal 10 micrometers (PM10).

Your letter references EPA's Exceptional Events Rule, which establishes procedures and criteria for identifying and evaluating air quality monitoring data affected by exceptional events and criteria for requesting data exclusion. For a high wind dust event to qualify as a natural event under the Exceptional Events Rule, the state must show that the windblown dust is entirely from natural undisturbed lands in the area or that all anthropogenic sources are reasonably controlled. We encourage the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to consult with the EPA Region 9 office using the initial notification process outlined in the Exceptional Events Rule to determine whether PM10 monitoring exceedances in the Yuma area have been influenced by exceptional events. Please note that the comment period for this proposed rule (published at 86 FR 29219 on June 1, 2021) was reopened until November 18, 2021. We are including your letter in the docket for this proposed rulemaking.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Karen Thundiyil in EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at Thundiyil.Karen@epa.gov or at (202) 564-1142.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Goffman". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Joseph Goffman
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator



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

November 17, 2021

OFFICE OF
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The Honorable Mark Kelly
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Kelly:

Thank you for your letter dated October 5, 2021, to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator, Michael S. Regan, regarding EPA's proposed action to rescind the Clean Data Determination for Yuma, Arizona, for the 1987 24-hour national ambient air quality standard for particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to a nominal 10 micrometers (PM10).

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Joseph Goffman
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator