



# State of New Jersey

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY & RADIATION PROTECTION

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**TAHESHA L. WAY**  
*Lt. Governor*

**SHAWN M. LATOURETTE**  
*Commissioner*

December 11, 2024

### **Via SPeCS for Exceptional Events**

Richard Ruvo, Director  
Air and Radiation Division  
United States Environmental Protection Agency - Region 2  
290 Broadway – 25th Floor  
New York, NY 10007-1866  
[Ruvo.Richard@epa.gov](mailto:Ruvo.Richard@epa.gov)

### **RE: Documentation of Final PM2.5 Exceptional Event Demonstration**

Dear Mr. Ruvo:

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) observed unusually high PM2.5 exceedances on June 6 – 8, and June 29 – 30, 2023. New Jersey is submitting documentation to demonstrate that these PM2.5 exceedances were an exceptional event due to the impacts of Canadian wildfires on New Jersey's air quality during this time.

Monitoring data for PM2.5 in New Jersey on the above mentioned dates has been accordingly flagged on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Air Quality System. In accordance with 40 CFR 50.14(c)(3) of the 'Exceptional Events Rule', the enclosed demonstration provides the following technical evidence and requirements to justify the data exclusion:

1. A narrative, conceptual model describing the event;
2. A demonstration of a clear causal relationship between the event and the measured exceedances;
3. A comparison of the claimed event-influenced concentration(s) to historical concentrations at the same monitoring site(s);
4. A demonstration that the event was not reasonably controllable or preventable;
5. A demonstration that the event was a natural event; and
6. Documentation that the public comment process and review procedures were followed.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Sharon Davis, Chief, Bureau of Evaluation and Planning, at [sharon.davis@dep.nj.gov](mailto:sharon.davis@dep.nj.gov).

Sincerely,

Francis C. Steitz  
Director  
Division of Air Quality & Radiation Protection

cc: (email only)

Rick Ruvo, Director, Air and Radiation Division, USEPA Region 2

Kirk Wieber, Chief, Air Programs Branch, USEPA Region 2

Ken Fradkin, Supervisor, Air Planning, USEPA Region 2

Paul Baldauf, Assistant Commissioner, NJDEP

Kenneth Ratzman, Assistant Director, NJDEP