

Received

APR 16 2014



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 7**

11201 Renner Boulevard
Lenexa, Kansas 66219

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT
DEPT. OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT

OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

APR 10 2014

Mr. John Mitchell
Director of Environment
Kansas Department of Health and Environment
1000 S.W. Jackson, Suite 310
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1366

RE: Exceptional Event or EE request for exceedance of the 24-hour Particulate Matter or PM₁₀ NAAQS at the Sherman County, Goodland, Kansas monitoring site on October 6, 2011

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

This letter responds to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's or KDHE's Exceptional Events or EE demonstration package for Treatment of Air Quality Monitoring Data Influenced by Exceptional Events. On October 6, 2011, the Sherman County, Goodland, Kansas, monitoring site recorded an exceedance of the 24-hour PM₁₀ National Ambient Air Quality Standard or NAAQS. The KDHE attributes the elevated PM₁₀ emissions to wind-blown dust at unusually high wind speeds, during a prolonged period of lack of precipitation in Western Kansas, and surrounding states.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7, has reviewed the EE demonstration package. Based on the weight of evidence, the EPA concurs that the state has successfully demonstrated, pursuant to 40 CFR 50.14, that the exceedance of the 24-hour PM₁₀ NAAQS was caused by an uncontrollable natural event. In addition, the state has met the schedule and procedural requirements of 40 CFR 50.14(c). My staff has, or shortly will, enter "concurrence flags" for this data into the EPA's Air Quality Systems data base.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, you may contact Joshua Tapp, a member of my staff at (913) 551-7606, or by email at tapp.joshua@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karl Brooks".

Karl Brooks



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