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RON CURRY
Secretary

DERRITH WATCHMAN-MOORE
Deputy Secretary

October 26, 2004

Tom Diggs, 6PD-L
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202

Dear Tom,

The New Mexico Environment Department, Air Quality Bureau is pleased to submit to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the enclosed Natural Events Action Plans for Chaves, Lea, and Luna Counties, all of which are located in southern New Mexico. These Natural Events Action Plans are in response to exceedances of the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Particulate Matter, 10 microns or less, (PM10) that were caused by high winds and monitored in the three counties during 2003. Documentation for these high wind events was submitted to EPA in April 2004.

Each of the enclosed Natural Events Action Plans has been compiled in accordance with the EPA Natural Events Policy Memo and outlines five elements, the implementation of which is an ongoing process with local stakeholders to protect public health and assure continued attainment of ambient standards in these three counties.

The New Mexico Environment Department has enjoyed working with EPA in development of these Natural Events Action Plans and looks forward to continued collaboration to protect air quality and public health in New Mexico.

Please contact Andy Berger of my staff at (505) 955-8034 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Ely".

for Sandra Ely
Chief, Air Quality Bureau