

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AIR RESOURCES DIVISION CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND PUBLIC HEARINGS In accordance with New Hampshire Administrative Rule Env-A 204.01(b) and Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 51.102, notice is hereby given that the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Air Resources Division (the Department) has prepared, and intends to submit to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval, a request for redesignation of the Boston-Manchester-Portsmouth (SE), New Hampshire 8-hour ozone (1997 standard) nonattainment area, including a maintenance plan for that area, hereinafter referred to as "Request for Redesignation (including MP I)," pursuant to section 110(a) of the federal Clean Air Act. This request, if approved by EPA, will revise New Hampshire's State Implementation Plan (SIP). In addition, the Department has prepared and intends to submit to EPA for approval as a SIP revision a maintenance plan, hereinafter referred to as "MP II," for the area of the state that was formerly designated nonattainment for the 1-hour ozone standard, but which was classified as unclassifiable/attainment for the 8-hour ozone standard. The Boston-Manchester-Portsmouth (SE), New Hampshire 8-hour ozone (1997 standard) nonattainment area consists of 52 cities and towns in the southern and/or eastern parts of Hillsborough, Merrimack, Rockingham, and Strafford Counties. Ground-level ozone monitoring data for the most recent 3-year monitoring period of 2008-2010 show that air quality in the nonattainment area has met the 1997 National Ambient Air Quality Standard for 8-hour ozone. For EPA to approve the Request for Redesignation, the Department must submit maintenance plan MP I as part of this request, detailing how the state will insure that the area will not fall back into nonattainment once it is redesignated as attainment. MP I must demonstrate that the area will remain in compliance for a period of 10 years from the date of redesignation. The former nonattainment area for the 1-hour ozone standard that was classified as unclassifiable/attainment for the 8-hour ozone standard on June 15, 2004, consists of 79 cities and towns in Cheshire County and the northern and/or western parts of Hillsborough, Merrimack, Rockingham, and Strafford Counties. The maintenance plan for this area, MP II, must demonstrate that the area will remain in compliance with the 8-hour ozone standard for the 10-year period from June 15, 2004 to June 15, 2014. The Department hereby solicits comments and has scheduled public hearings on the Request for Redesignation (including MP I) and MP II. A public hearing on the Request for Redesignation (including MP I) has been scheduled for 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, January 24, 2012, at the Department offices in Rooms 110 and 111 at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301. A public hearing on MP II has been scheduled to start at the conclusion of the first hearing. Comments may be presented orally and/or in writing at the public hearings. Written comments may also be submitted by postal delivery, email, or fax to Charles Martone, Air Resources Division, NH Department of Environmental Services, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095; email Charles.Martone@des.nh.gov; fax (603)271-1381. Please specify which plan each comment addresses. All written comments on the Request for Redesignation (including MP I) and all written comments on MP II must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 24, 2012, to be entered into the record. The Request for Redesignation (including MP I) and MP II are available for public inspection at the Department's offices at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH, during regular working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The main text of both documents may be downloaded from the Department's website at <http://des.nh.gov/>. Questions regarding the Request for Redesignation (including MP I) and MP II may be directed to Charles Martone at (603) 271- 1089. Robert R. Scott Director, Air Resources Division NH Department of Environmental Services Dated: December 23, 2011