The Honorable George Pavlou  
Acting Regional Administrator  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 2  
290 Broadway – 26th Floor  
New York, New York 10007-1866  

Dear Acting Regional Administrator Pavlou:  

Enclosed for your approval are revisions to the New Jersey State Implementation Plan (SIP) for Regional Haze. The primary purpose of this SIP revision is to establish the first reasonable progress goal for the Brigantine Wilderness Area to help achieve the Congressionally mandated goal of reaching natural background visibility levels by the year 2064. This plan protects and improves visibility levels in New Jersey’s Class I area, the Brigantine Wilderness Area of the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge. This plan also addresses other mandatory SIP elements for regional haze and related issues.  

The primary components of this SIP revision are to:  

1) Establish the baseline and natural visibility conditions at the Brigantine Wilderness Area;  

2) Identify states that contribute to visibility impairment at the Brigantine Wilderness Area;  

3) Establish the 2018 Reasonable Progress Goal for the Brigantine Wilderness Area. This goal meets the Uniform Rate of Progress requirement;  

4) Address New Jersey’s actions to reduce its contribution to visibility impairment at impacted Class I areas;  

5) Address facilities that require Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART);  

6) Demonstrate that New Jersey will meet the 2018 Uniform Rate of Progress goal set by the USEPA regulations. This demonstration relies upon implementation of control measures by New Jersey and other states contributing to visibility impairment at the Brigantine Wilderness Area. These control measures were identified by Mid-Atlantic/Northeast Visibility Union (MANE-VU) to be reasonable; and
7) Request that while reviewing SIP revisions from other states, the USEPA take into consideration those states’ impact on New Jersey’s obligations to meet the 2018 Reasonable Progress Goal, and compel the emission reduction necessary to achieve this goal.

On September 5, 2008, Commissioner Jackson forwarded a copy of the proposed SIP to your office for review and comments. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) held a public hearing on October 27, 2008, and accepted written comments relevant to the proposal until the close of business on November 28, 2008. A summary of the comments received on this SIP revision, as well as the State’s responses to those comments, are included as part of the enclosed SIP submittal document in Appendix O-3.

If you have any questions regarding this proposal, please contact Chris Salmi, Assistant Director of the Division of Air Quality, at (609) 292-6710.

Sincerely yours,

Mark Mauriello
Acting Commissioner

Enclosures: SIP Document
CD-ROM of SIP Document

c: Ray Werner, USEPA, wo enclosures
   Richard Ruvo, USEPA wo enclosures
   Bob Kelly, USEPA w SIP Document
   Sandra Silva, USFWS, w all enclosures
   Tim Allen, USFWS, w SIP Document
   Kent Connaughton, USDA Forest Service, with all enclosures
   Ralph Perron, Northeast Zone, FS Region 9, with all enclosures