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OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
PUBLIC HEARING

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In re: :  
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Ohio EPA Requests :  
Recognition of Improved Air :  
Quality in Northeast Ohio :  
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Transcript of proceedings before the Ohio  
Environmental Protection Agency, taken at 2110 East  
Aurora Road, Twinsburg, Ohio 44087, on Monday,  
May 21, 2012, commencing at 2:30 p.m.

APPEARANCES:  
Mary McCarron, Ohio EPA Public Interest Center  
Erica Fetty, Ohio EPA

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## PROCEEDINGS

1  
2 MS. McCARRON: We'll open up the  
3 hearing.

4 My name is Mary McCarron. I am public  
5 information officer for Ohio Environmental  
6 Protection Agency. I will be presiding over  
7 today's public hearing.

8 Thank you for taking the time to attend  
9 this hearing before the Ohio EPA. The purpose  
10 of the hearing today is to obtain comments  
11 from any interested person regarding Ohio  
12 EPA's proposed action.

13 The State of Ohio plans to ask U.S. EPA  
14 to officially recognize that air quality in  
15 the Cleveland-Lorain-Akron area meets the 2006  
16 Federal Fine Particulate Standard.

17 Air quality data from 2008-2010 show  
18 that the Cleveland-Lorain-Akron area is  
19 meeting the 2006 24-hour National Fine  
20 Particulate Matter Standard. When asking for  
21 redesignation, states are required to  
22 demonstrate that the metropolitan area will be  
23 able to maintain compliance with the Fine  
24 Particulate Standard for 10 years. Current  
25 national, state and local air pollution

1 controls to limit particulate emissions will  
2 enable the area to maintain the air quality,  
3 including: Lower emissions from coal-burning  
4 power plants, additional controls on  
5 diesel-powered vehicles and enforcement  
6 efforts.

7 The proposed redesignation request  
8 affects Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina,  
9 Portage and Summit Counties.

10 Comments can be submitted until the  
11 close of business today, May 21. You may  
12 email comments to Erika.fetty@epa.ohio.gov.

13 All interested persons are entitled to  
14 attend or be represented, and to present oral  
15 and/or written comments concerning the  
16 proposed action. All written and oral  
17 comments received as part of the official  
18 record will be considered by the Director of  
19 Ohio EPA before a final decision is made.

20 Written statements submitted after the  
21 comment period closes may be considered as  
22 time and circumstances permit, but will not be  
23 part of the official record of the hearing.

24 If you wish to present oral testimony  
25 at this hearing today and have not already

1 signed the registration sheet, please do so at  
2 this time. The sheet is available at the  
3 registration table. Persons will be called in  
4 the order in which they have registered.

5 There is no cross-examination of  
6 speakers or of representatives of Ohio EPA in  
7 public hearings such as this. Ohio EPA  
8 hearings provide citizens the opportunity to  
9 submit comments on the official record.

10 Therefore, we will not be able to answer  
11 questions during the hearing. However, Ohio  
12 EPA staff may ask clarifying questions of the  
13 person testifying to ensure the record is as  
14 complete and accurate as possible.

15 I will now read the names of those who  
16 have registered at this hearing and will give  
17 each person an opportunity to testify.

18 Terry Tucker, would you like to --

19 MR. TUCKER: I do have some  
20 questions. Do I ask them now?

21 MS. McCARRON: If you want to put  
22 them into the record, you can put them in  
23 now. Then if we go off the record, after  
24 everybody had a chance, we might be able to  
25 answer them. I can't guarantee we can answer

1           them. State your name and spell it for the  
2           Court Reporter.

3                       MR. TUCKER:           My name is T-E-R-R-Y,  
4           T-U-C-K-E-R, Wadsworth, Ohio. My question is  
5           who is asking for the redesignation. I  
6           believe it's Ohio EPA.

7                       Secondly, I understand that there were  
8           a number of monitors for monitoring  
9           particulate that were not operating;  
10          therefore, is the request for the  
11          redesignation valid, since some of the  
12          monitors were not operating.

13                      We're still failing to meet the current  
14          standard. So I'm wondering -- that is a third  
15          question -- why we're asking for redesignation  
16          when we're not meeting the current standard.  
17          Those are my three questions. I don't know  
18          how this works. I've never been to one of  
19          these before. I came to attend and ask the  
20          questions, see how it works.

21                      MS. McCARRON:           Thank you very much  
22          for attending.

23                      We will move on to George Homa. Would  
24          you like to make any testimony?

25                      MR. HOMA:           The question I have is

1 maybe also related to particulates. Who is  
2 interested or takes comments on airline fuel  
3 dumping?

4 I came here about -- back in the era  
5 when DC-10's were losing their engines because  
6 of Chinese bolts, asking the same question. I  
7 was out in my yard one day, I thought my  
8 neighbor had a severe diesel spill someplace  
9 from a truck. There was stuff on the plants  
10 and trees, grass. I could breathe it, choke  
11 on it. I'm sure it was from airline fuel  
12 being dumped. No one here, or at Cleveland  
13 Hopkins, or the FAA seemed to be interested in  
14 hearing me.

15 MS. McCARRON: The proper authority  
16 to reply to that would be either U.S. EPA or  
17 the FAA.

18 MR. HOMA: FAA, zero response.

19 MS. McCARRON: I would check at the  
20 Federal EPA then. Ohio EPA doesn't regulate  
21 that.

22 MR. HOMA: It is Ohio  
23 environment.

24 MS. McCARRON: It is in the air,  
25 across state lines, air traffic. We don't

1 regulate that.

2 MR. TUCKER: Like interstate  
3 commerce.

4 MR. TUCKER: Can I put a no-fly zone  
5 straight up above my residence?

6 MS. McCARRON: If you want, we can  
7 discuss this off the record, since it is not  
8 pertaining to the particulate matter standard  
9 directly. I'll talk with you after we are  
10 done with the hearing.

11 MR. HOMA: Check out no-fly  
12 zones also.

13 MS. McCARRON: Burt Mechenbier.

14 MR. MECHENBIER: Pass.

15 MS. McCARRON: I appreciate the  
16 testimony. We'll go off the record until 3:00  
17 p.m.

18 (Recess taken.)

19 MS. McCARRON: Back on the record.  
20 At this time there is nobody else to provide  
21 testimony. I will remind you written comments  
22 can be submitted until 5:00 p.m. today.  
23 Thanks for attending. The time is now  
24 3:00 p.m. this hearing is adjourned.

25 (Hearing adjourned at 3:00 p.m.)

1 State of Ohio, )  
2 County of Cuyahoga. ) SS:  
3

4 C E R T I F I C A T E

5 This certifies that the foregoing is a true  
6 and correct transcript of the proceedings had  
7 before the State of Ohio, Environmental  
8 Protection Agency, in Twinsburg, Ohio on  
9 Monday, May 21, 2012, commencing at  
10 2:30 p.m.

11  
12 In Re:

13 Ohio EPA Requests Recognition of Improved Air  
14 Quality in Northeast Ohio  
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COURT REPORTER

20 FINCUN-MANCINI COURT REPORTERS  
21 1801 East Ninth Street  
22 Suite 1720  
23 Cleveland, Ohio 44114  
24 (216) 696-2272  
25 (216) 696-2275 FAX