Public Notice – Proposed Revision to State Implementation Plan Incorporating Amendments to Sulfur Content in Fuels Requirements Passed by Philadelphia City Council and the Philadelphia Air Management Services

The City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health Air Management Services (AMS) is proposing a revision to the Commonwealth’s State Implementation Plan (SIP) incorporating amendments to Philadelphia Code Section 3-207 – Sale of Fuel Oil (Section 3-207) and Air Management Regulation III – Control of Sulfur Compounds (AMR III).

On July 15, 2014, and June 18, 2015, Bill No. 140510 and Bill No. 150500-A finalized amendments to Section 3-207 by adding requirements for commercial fuel oil content and emissions, deleting superseded standards, and adding sections (1)(c) – (f) modifying certain requirements for commercial fuel oil content all under certain terms and conditions.

On June 15, 2015, and November 25, 2015, amendments to AMR III were finalized by adding requirements for commercial fuel oil sulfur content and emissions, deleting superseded standards, and adding or modifying sections I, II, and III.

In summary, the amendments to Section 3-207 and AMR III reduced the sulfur content limit for No. 2 and lighter commercial fuel oil and No. 4 commercial fuel oil to 0.0015 % (15 ppm) and 0.2500% (2500 ppm) respectively. The amendments also included provisions for use of No. 2 and lighter commercial fuel oil by the ultimate consumer, purchased prior to June 30, 2015, beyond the July 1, 2015 deadline. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), on behalf of AMS, will submit these amendments to the United States Environmental Protection Agency as a revision to the Commonwealth’s SIP.

Interested persons may submit written comments or a request for a public hearing on the proposed SIP revision to Air Management Services, 321 University Ave, 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA, 19104, Attn: Ramesh Mahadevan or ramesh.mahadevan@phila.gov. Use “Low Sulfur Content in Fuel SIP Revision” as the subject line in written communication.

The written comments or a request for a public hearing must be received by AMS no later than Tuesday, November 22, 2016. If requested, AMS will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed amendment to the Pennsylvania SIP on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, at 6 PM at the Spelman Building, 321 University Avenue, 1st Floor Conference Room, Philadelphia, PA 19104. Persons with a disability who desire to attend the meeting and require an auxiliary aid, service, or other accommodation to participate in the proceedings should contact Rachel Andes at (215) 685-9422 to discuss how AMS may accommodate their needs.

If no request for a public hearing is received by Tuesday, November 22, 2016, the hearing will be cancelled and a notice of cancellation will be published on Friday, December 2, 2016, on the AMS website at http://www.phila.gov/health/AirManagement/PublicMeetings.html. Interested persons may also call (215) 685-9436 to find out if the hearing has been cancelled.