

Stallworth, Holly

From: Greg Kohn <greg.kohn@vistagechair.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2014 1:04 PM
To: Stallworth, Holly
Subject: Reduction in Ozone levels

Dear Dr. Stallworth,

EPA's Draft Policy Assessment does not take into account the reductions in ozone levels as a direct result of existing regulations and those yet to take effect. Dramatic improvements in ozone levels will continue to come from the 75ppb standard that was enacted in 2008. A recommended revision to the ozone NAAQS standard by CASAC to EPA would greatly increase the stringency of the ozone regulation at a time when implementation of existing standards is already resulting in noticeable progress and would only undermine the efforts of counties and states focused on addressing existing ozone standards. Counties and states need some predictability in order to develop long range plans to achieve ozone reduction. Pushing the goal post back disallows state and local entities the time and flexibility needed to implement already existing ozone standards. Changing the standard does not help counties meet existing ozone standards, but forces them to take two steps back as they fall further out of compliance with federal Clean Air Act requirements.

The US is making progress toward meeting the current standards and air quality will continue to improve as we continue to reduce emissions that form ozone. EPA and the states are just beginning to develop the plans to meet the previous 2008 ozone standards, so EPA should not be changing the standards now before those efforts can be fully undertaken.

President Obama should not use the Executive Branch to move his climate agenda forward. The 60 ppb standard is so low even Yellowstone Park, w wonderful tourist attraction for Montana and Wyoming, might not even comply! Please do not lower these standards.

For these reasons, I urge that any recommendation to EPA to tighten the ozone standard to include the current 75 ppb standard within the range of consideration.

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