MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE STATES IN THE OZONE TRANSPORT COMMISSION ON THE CALIFORNIA LOW EMISSION VEHICLE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Northeastern United States is faced with a severe and widespread long-term ozone nonattainment problem; and

WHEREAS, most of the member states also have carbon monoxide nonattainment problems; and

WHEREAS, motor vehicles are the largest source of ozone-producing pollutants and air toxic pollutants as well as emit the vast majority of the carbon monoxide emissions; and

WHEREAS, a NESCAUM analysis indicates that implementation of the California Low Emission Vehicle Program in the Northeast United States will result in substantially greater reductions in hydrocarbon, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and air toxic emissions than provided by the current or expected future federal motor vehicle control program; and

WHEREAS, Section 177 of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments provides states with the option of adopting vehicle emission standards identical to California's stringent exhaust standards; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has, in recognition of the severe ozone problem in the Northeastern United States, expressed support for the adoption of the California Low Emission Vehicle Program as an element of an attainment and maintenance strategy by the states in the ozone transport region.

THEREFORE, each of the undersigned member states recognizes the need to reduce mobile source emissions as a means of effectively addressing the current and future ozone, carbon monoxide, and air toxics problems in the Northeast; and

FURTHERMORE, each of the undersigned member states agrees to propose regulations and/or legislation as necessary to adopt light duty motor vehicle emission standards identical to those in California's Low Emission Vehicle Program effective as soon as possible in the ozone transport region and in accordance with Section 177 of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments; and

FURTHERMORE, the undersigned member states recognize the benefits of regional consistency and will strive to coordinate the implementation and administration of this program.

CONNECTICUT:
DELAWARE: July & Julius
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:
MAINE: Deac Marios
MARYLAND: Bot Perriosque
MASSACHUSETTS: Susanf tremer
NEW HAMPSHIRE: Robert W. Vune
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