RESOLUTION OF THE STATES OF THE OZONE TRANSPORT COMMISSION ENDORSING COOPERATIVE OZONE MODELING EFFORTS AMONG THE STATES, EPA, INDUSTRY, AND OTHER INTERESTED ORGANIZATIONS

WHEREAS the Ozone Transport Commission is charged by Congress to assess the degree of interstate transport of ozone and ozone precursors throughout Ozone Transport Region; and

WHEREAS computer simulation modeling is a useful tool for assessing ozone transport; and

WHEREAS the States of the Ozone Transport Commission are responsible for ozone State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions, which in most cases include requirements for computerized photochemical grid modeling; and

WHEREAS long term development of the state-of-the-science of ozone modeling will help enable the Ozone Transport Commission to meet its Congressionally mandated responsibilities to help attain and maintain the health-based ozone standard; and

WHEREAS a number of private organizations have recently organized a group known as the Modeling Ozone Cooperative (MOCA) Project which is focused on the development of a range of ozone modeling tools; and

WHEREAS the MOCA Project has indicated its interest in State participation in its activities; and

WHEREAS it is important to ensure that experimental and unapproved model results coming out of the MOCA Project will not be used to challenge the approved SIP modeling used by States in their ozone SIP revisions; and

WHEREAS, the MOCA Project has indicated in its Bylaws that results will not be used by its members without full briefings of these results including the explanation of any caveats;

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Ozone Transport Commission that participation of the States should be encouraged in the MOCA project as long as all participants meet both the spirit and the letter of the MOCA Bylaws; and

FURTHERMORE, these Bylaws shall reflect appropriate and verifiable modeling techniques which will be acceptable to EPA; and

FURTHERMORE, that individuals States are encouraged to activate their participation under the provisions for State participation; and

FURTHERMORE, the OTC calls on EPA to be a strong and active participant to help ensure the technical integrity of the MOCA Project; and

FURTHERMORE, the OTC calls on all MOCA participants to abide by the Bylaws.

Approved May 10, 1994