



Statement on the Need for National Rulemaking and Implementation of Ozone Control Measures

The OTC was established under Sections 176A and 184 of the federal Clean Air Act (CAA) to ensure the development of regional strategies and to advise EPA on national programs and actions to reduce ground-level ozone to healthful levels.

Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia

The member states of the Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) continue to demonstrate leadership in the development and implementation of regional ozone control strategies that significantly improve air quality, are technically feasible and cost-effective. Nevertheless, we continue to encounter considerable challenges in meeting and maintaining the current eight-hour ozone standard to protect the public health through the implementation of regional and local controls, especially due to the transport of ozone precursor emissions from outside the OTC region. In addition, we recognize that further reductions will be necessary to meet a new and potentially more stringent standard for ozone that should be finalized by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) this spring.

Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York

The OTC states therefore urge the EPA to develop and promulgate federal regulations and programs based on the successful regional and local control strategies and programs that have been implemented by the OTC states, to achieve substantial reductions in ozone pollution on a national level. National rulemaking and implementation of ozone control measures that have proven successful on a regional basis will reduce the emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that combine to form ozone, and provide significant health benefits across the country by reducing incidences of respiratory illness, hospital admissions and premature death that are triggered by exposure to ground-level ozone. Further, EPA needs to step forward and implement tighter controls for mobile sources and the electric power sector.

Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Vermont
Virginia

The source categories that are ready for new or strengthened national programs include:

Adhesives and Sealants
Architectural, Industrial and Maintenance Coatings
Asphalt Production and Paving
Consumer Products
Diesel Chip Reflash
Distributed Generation
Glass Manufacturing
Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Boilers
Kilns (Lime and Cement)
Mobile Equipment Repair and Refinishing
Solvent Cleaning Operations
Stationary Reciprocating and Combustion Engines

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