



## OTC Statement on the Proposed Clean Air Amendments of 2010

The Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) today expresses its appreciation for Senator Carper's continued dedication to improving air quality and public health outcomes through a multi-pollutant strategy, as demonstrated by the introduction of the "Clean Air Act Amendments of 2010." OTC is pleased that the annual emission reductions outlined for sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and mercury (Hg) reflect today's best technologies that will significantly improve public health throughout the country. The proposed NO<sub>x</sub> reductions however, fall short of what is feasible and needed for attainment in the Ozone Transport Region and to adequately address the transport of pollutants from sources outside the region.

NO<sub>x</sub> is a key component of ground-level ozone pollution which contributes to premature mortality, respiratory illness and hospitalizations, and causes damage to critical ecosystems. The OTC believes that more aggressive NO<sub>x</sub> reductions will be needed to meet the current 75 ppb ozone health standard and the even more stringent standard in the range of 60 to 70 ppb proposed by EPA. The reductions needed to maximize improvements to air quality and public health are readily achievable using current, cost-effective technology. The OTC has provided EPA with this information to use in completing its replacement for the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR).

OTC is committed to continue working with Congress, U.S. EPA and other states to structure an environmentally sound and cost-effective approach to meet the current and the anticipated more stringent ozone standards necessary to protect public health.

The OTC is a multi-state organization created under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 to develop regional solutions to the problem of ground-level ozone pollution. It is committed to finding innovative approaches that maximize public health and environmental benefits.