



**RESOLUTION OF THE OZONE TRANSPORT COMMISSION
REQUESTING THAT THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY IMMEDIATELY PROMULGATE FINAL
DESIGNATIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS FOR THE 2015 OZONE
NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARD**

WHEREAS, the Ozone Transport Commission (OTC), a multi-state organization created under the Clean Air Act (CAA), is responsible for advising the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on developing and implementing regional solutions to the ground-level ozone problem in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions; and

Connecticut

WHEREAS, ozone is a significant health threat and oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are precursors to the creation of ground-level ozone. Protecting the public from the harmful health effects of ozone pollution is paramount and we have made significant additional progress on reducing ground-level ozone, however more than 33 million people living in the Ozone Transport Region (OTR) are still exposed to elevated ozone levels; and

Delaware

District of Columbia

Maine

WHEREAS, the EPA adopted the 2015 ozone national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) set at 70 parts per billion (ppb) on October 26, 2015 (80 *Federal Register* 65291) and became effective December 28, 2015, is expected to provide important public health benefits in the OTR and across the United States; and

Maryland

Massachusetts

WHEREAS, EPA concluded that the 2015 ozone NAAQS is expected to prevent 230,000 asthma attacks in children and 320 to 660 premature deaths annually by 2025 (excluding California); and

New Hampshire

New Jersey

WHEREAS, the EPA has an obligation to promulgate designations no later than two years from the date of promulgation of a revised NAAQS pursuant to CAA Section 107(d)(1)(B)(i); effectively October 1, 2017 for the 2015 ozone NAAQS; and

New York

Pennsylvania

WHEREAS, as of the date of this resolution, EPA has not promulgated initial area designation and classification for the 2015 ozone NAAQS nor has EPA provided states with notice of its intended designations for areas for which it intends to modify a state's nonattainment area recommendation, as required by CAA Section 107(d)(i)(B)(ii); and

Rhode Island

Vermont

WHEREAS, attainment dates are keyed off the designations, and further delay by EPA in promulgating initial nonattainment area designations and classifications for the 2015 ozone NAAQS may delay reductions in ozone producing emissions and public health benefits in the OTR and in states that significantly contribute to states in the OTR.

Virginia

David Foerter
Executive Director

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the OTC requests that the EPA immediately comply with its requirements under the CAA and promulgate final designations and classifications for the 2015 ozone NAAQS.

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Adopted by the Commission on November 15, 2017

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