



Statement of the Ozone Transport Commission on Inflation Reduction Act Funding

The Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) wishes to express its appreciation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) efforts to cooperatively coordinate with the members of the OTC in prioritizing funding of clean air projects through the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).

The IRA and its Climate Pollution Reduction Grants will provide billions of dollars in the near-term to the states and others for a range of important activities that will reduce air pollution, mitigate climate change, and strengthen our economy. The IRA can help accelerate the introduction of zero-emission vehicles, reduce pollution from ports, make our homes and businesses cleaner and more resilient, expand clean electricity generation, and support community air monitoring. The IRA also appropriately targets the multi-pollutant co-benefits of greenhouse gas mitigation strategies, with a particular focus on communities historically overburdened by local air pollution sources.

The OTC has a congressionally-mandated mission to foster regional collaboration on reducing interstate ozone pollution transport and to provide EPA with advice and recommendations to that end. The IRA climate funding programs have strong synergies with the OTC's work. To fully realize the capabilities of the OTC and the opportunities IRA funding provides for multi-pollutant co-benefits, we offer to EPA the collective multi-state expertise the OTC has developed over three decades in addressing our pollution problems at a regional scale.

The OTC also requests that EPA seek grant mechanisms for IRA funding to the states that minimize administrative burdens and avoid unnecessary cost-sharing, and to continue its efforts to closely and regularly communicate with the OTC members on effective approaches for allocating IRA funding. Leveraging the experience of the OTC can help make the most effective use of public resources and more fully accomplish our shared goals of achieving cleaner air, mitigating climate change, and fostering a more resilient economy.

Adopted by the Commission on June 14, 2023.

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