



RESOLUTION OF THE OZONE TRANSPORT COMMISSION CONCERNING COOPERATIVE FEDERALISM AND COLLABORATION

WHEREAS, the Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) a multi-state organization established under Sections 176A and 184 of the federal Clean Air Act to ensure the development and implementation of regional strategies to reduce ground-level ozone to healthy levels; and

WHEREAS, the adverse health effects of ground-level ozone are well documented, and in spite of significant reductions of ozone precursor emissions achieved to date, over 33 million residents of the Ozone Transport Region continue to be exposed to unhealthy levels of ozone air pollution; and

Connecticut

WHEREAS, the OTC has been in place since 1991 and has developed considerable policy and technical experience and expertise on ozone policy, implementation of ozone control strategies, opportunities to enhance economic development and job creation, air pollution control technology and the science of ground level ozone formation; and

Delaware

District of Columbia

WHEREAS, the EPA is actively promoting the need to reenergize the process of cooperative federalism, including encouraging state environmental leadership to work with EPA in partnership to strengthen environmental and public health protections, while ensuring a strong economy; and

Maine

Maryland

WHEREAS, the Environmental Council of States (ECOS) adopted a paper on June 12, 2017 (Cooperative Federalism 2.0) supporting an enhanced and improved partnership between EPA and the state environmental programs; and

Massachusetts

WHEREAS, strong federal leadership from EPA, in collaboration with states, is still essential to solve regional issues; and

New Hampshire

New Jersey

WHEREAS, new EPA policies and changes in EPA policies can have a significant impact on the health of our state citizens and impact our state efforts to strengthen our economies and create jobs;

New York

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the OTC states respectfully request that EPA collaborate with OTC leadership and technical staff on all current and future major ozone policy initiatives. This collaboration should be initiated as early as possible, and well in advance of any finalization of new EPA policies or modification of existing EPA policies. Examples of key ozone policy initiatives include, but are not limited to:

Pennsylvania

Rhode Island

- Ozone designation and classification policy,
- Policies related to Good Neighbor SIPs, including actions to achieve a full-remedy,
- Timely implementation guidance and modeling, and
- Strengthening the economy through regulatory streamlining; and

Vermont

Virginia

FURTHERMORE, the OTC States commit to working in partnership with EPA, as expeditiously possible, to meet the policy deadlines associated with implementation of ozone standards.

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