

## Statement of the Ozone Transport Commission Concerning Setting of a New National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Ozone

The Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) was established under Sections 176A and 184 of the federal Clean Air Act (CAA) to ensure the development and implementation of regional strategies to reduce ground-level ozone to healthful levels.

Connecticut

Delaware

District of Columbia

Maine

Maryland

Massachusetts

New Hampshire

New Jersey

New York

Pennsylvania

Rhode Island

Vermont

Virginia

Christopher Recchia Executive Director The (CAA) requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to review and revise periodically, as appropriate, the criteria and the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for "criteria pollutants," including ozone and PM 2.5 The CAA also requires the Clean Air Science Advisory Committee (CASAC) to recommend to the EPA Administrator any new NAAQS and revision of existing criteria and standards, as may be appropriate.

The CAA sets forth, as affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court, that the NAAQS shall be set at levels necessary to protect public health and welfare, with an adequate margin of safety and without consideration of economic impacts. Cost considerations only apply after the new ozone standard is set when selecting among strategies to meet the primary & secondary revised standard.

The CAA calls on EPA to rely heavily on the science and CASAC's recommendations in setting both the primary and secondary NAAQS. OTC supports the work of the CASAC and urges EPA to give great weight to the recommendations of the CASAC for a revision of the ozone NAAQS as set forth in its March 26, 2007 letter to EPA Administrator Johnson.

Adopted by the Commission on June 6, 2007

David Paylor, Director, VA DEP

Chair

444 N. Captol St. NW Suite 638 Washington, DC 20001 (202) 508-3840 FAX (202) 508-3841 e-mail: ozone@otcair.org