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Paul J. Miller Executive Director

89 South St., Suite 602 Boston, MA 02111 (617) 259-2005 www.otcair.org

Statement of the Chair, Ozone Transport Commission, on the Revised CSAPR Update Final Rule

The Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) congratulates the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for quickly finalizing the Revised CSAPR Update rule in recognition of the urgent need for prompt reductions of nitrogen oxides (NOx) in the eastern United States as the 2021 ozone season approaches. The NOx reductions in the final rule are clearly feasible on the rule's timeline and responsive to the court-ordered schedule EPA had to meet. The OTC, however, continues to be disappointed by EPA's consistent failure to fully address interstate transport of ozone and its precursors.

EPA still must promulgate an interstate transport rule for the 2015 national ozone standard. The future rule must better protect public health and the environment from the harms of ozone pollution. This is at the core of the OTC's work, and we call upon EPA to assist the OTC so that we can accomplish our shared goals.

Terrence Gray, P.E. Chair, Ozone Transport Commission Deputy Director for Environmental Protection Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Date: March 15, 2021