



Alabama



Alaska



Indiana



Louisiana



Mississippi



Missouri



Nebraska



Nevada



North Dakota



South Carolina



Texas

December 11, 2007

The Honorable Stephen L. Johnson  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Johnson:

Earlier this year, governors from both parties and every region of the country asked you to consider every option and maintain an open dialogue as you consider the ground-level ozone NAAQS. We have concluded that the uncertain health and environmental benefits do not warrant a tightened standard, especially when state and local governments are making significant progress under the current standards to improve air quality.

As your decision draws nearer, we would ask that you provide us an opportunity to continue this communication and not reach a final decision until you have heard from all interested parties, including governors of the several states that will be affected. The fact is that the scientific research on this issue does not provide compelling evidence of any health benefits. We agree with your Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation Robert Meyers who stated, "There is a lot of uncertainty" and that some "esteemed scientists are saying that the data is not sufficient to change the standard."

In support of Mr. Meyers' point, one of the foundational scientific studies meant to substantiate a tightened standard – the 2006 Adams study – was based on only 30 volunteers. The author of the study even believes that your staff scientists have misinterpreted his original findings. Similarly, it appears that EPA scientists dismiss the impact of naturally occurring ozone, or ozone that is imported from our neighbors in Canada and Mexico. As a result, it should be no surprise when a respected expert like Dr. Roger McClellan says that tightening the standard "is a policy judgment based on a flawed and inaccurate presentation of the science..."

Finally, we want you to know that we are proud of our progress in improving air quality. EPA's data shows that ozone concentrations nationwide have dropped more than 20% since the early

1980s. Furthermore your re-designation of several counties this year as having reached attainment of the current standard shows that we are making progress under current rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with you on this vital issue and to continue the progress that the EPA's policies, in concert with state and local governments, are generating.

Sincerely,



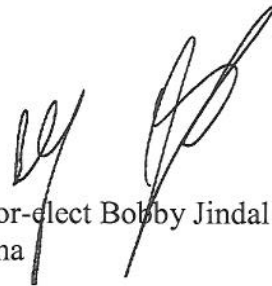
Governor Bob Riley  
Alabama



Governor Sarah Palin  
Alaska



Governor Mitch Daniels  
Indiana



Governor-elect Bobby Jindal  
Louisiana



Governor Haley Barbour  
Mississippi



Governor Matt Blunt  
Missouri



Governor Dave Heineman  
Nebraska



Governor Jim Gibbons  
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Governor John Hoeven  
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South Carolina



Governor Rick Perry  
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