

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

July 28, 2015

The Honorable Gina McCarthy  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington D.C., 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy,

We are concerned that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed new ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) before completing implementation of the existing ozone standards. Between 1980 and 2013, U.S. Gross Domestic Product, population, and energy consumption grew substantially, while air emissions dropped significantly. Moving forward, EPA projects air quality will continue to substantially improve over the next ten years through various federal controls including state and industry efforts to implement the current 2008 ozone standard. EPA can support economic growth while continuing the decades-long trend towards cleaner air by maintaining the existing 75 ppb ozone standard and allowing time for our constituents to fully implement current clean air requirements.

EPA data indicates that the air is cleaner today than it has been in thirty years, progress due in large part to control measures associated with past NAAQS standards. This success shows that ozone NAAQS when given an opportunity to be fully implemented produce significant reductions. Companies seeking to build or expand facilities invest significantly in control processes. If a proposed standard cannot be met, nonattainment areas would be required to implement costly ozone-reduction measures and permitting requirements that could prove technologically difficult. Moreover, EPA acknowledges that there are alternative views on health effects evidence and risk information. Due to all these uncertainties, allowing the current standard to take full effect would alleviate any perceived concerns with measured scientific data and allow EPA time to further consider those uncertainties while still protecting air quality.

EPA's ozone rules affect all aspects of our communities and municipalities, including consumers and vital industries. EPA openly acknowledges that to meet national air quality standards a partnership is required between the federal government, states, localities and industry. Yet, the timing of EPA's proposal could strain state and local government resources. EPA delayed implementing the current 2008 standard for two years while it decided whether to reconsider that standard. EPA is just now providing states with guidance to implement the 2008 standard, and the state-federal clean air partnership should be allowed an opportunity to work.

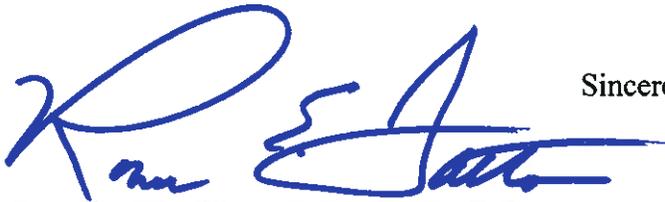
The Honorable Gina McCarthy

July 28, 2015

Page 2

Indeed, states are currently investing substantial administrative resources to make up lost time. It could prove burdensome to force states to implement a new ozone standard at the same time they are only starting to implement the current one. We believe allowing sufficient time for existing measures to take hold, before setting a new ozone standard, would yield the desired results EPA is currently seeking.

While we recognize that EPA is under court order to complete its review of the ozone NAAQS, EPA has requested comment on maintaining the existing standard. We believe the full implementation of a standard of 75 ppb is in line with EPA goals and the ideals set forth under the Clean Air Act and, could possibly, by the next five year review, achieve lower emissions standards than originally sought. It is clear from the past that ozone standards can only achieve the desired results if they are allowed time to be fully implemented. EPA should keep in mind the newly laid out requirements in the delayed 2008 ozone NAAQS when considering whether to finalize a new, potentially stricter, standard. Therefore, we request EPA allow time for the benefits of the current ozone standard to become effective by retaining the current ozone standard.



Sincerely,

Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress



Gene Green  
Member of Congress



Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress



Pete Olson  
Member of Congress



Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress



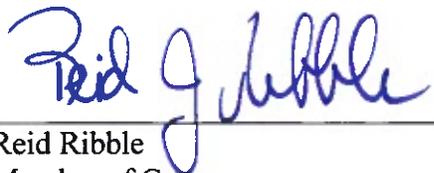
Kevin Cramer  
Member of Congress



Jim Bridenstine  
Member of Congress



Kyrsten Sinema  
Member of Congress



---

Reid Ribble  
Member of Congress



---

Morgan Griffith  
Member of Congress



---

Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress



---

Glenn Grothman  
Member of Congress



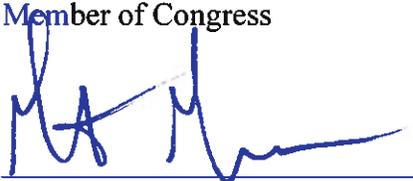
---

Frank Lucas  
Member of Congress



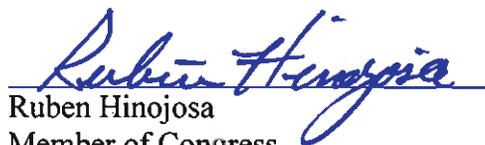
---

Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress



---

Garrett Graves  
Member of Congress



---

Ruben Hinojosa  
Member of Congress



---

Richard Hudson  
Member of Congress



---

Dan Newhouse  
Member of Congress



---

David McKinley  
Member of Congress



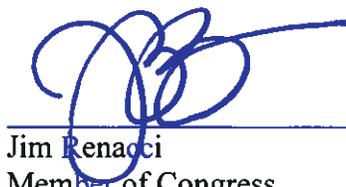
---

Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



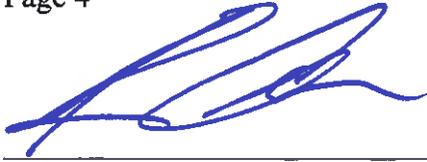
---

Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress



---

Jim Renacci  
Member of Congress



Ralph Abraham  
Member of Congress



Steve Knight  
Member of Congress



Gary Palmer  
Member of Congress



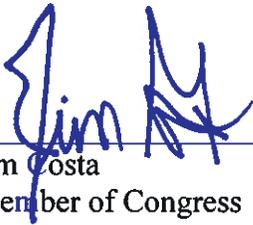
Mike Bost  
Member of Congress



Thomas Massie  
Member of Congress



Bony Loudermilk  
Member of Congress



Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



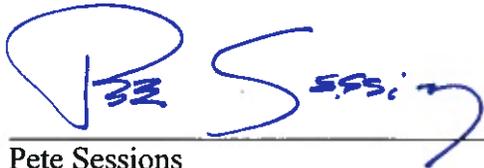
Gregg Harper  
Member of Congress



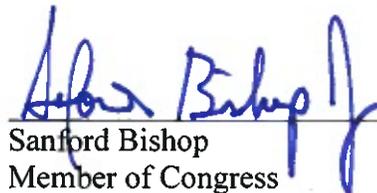
Earl "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress



Bill Posey  
Member of Congress



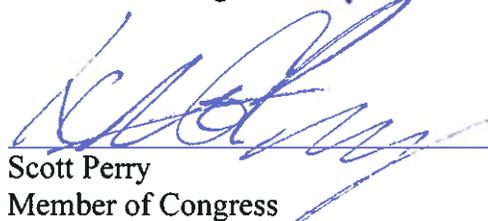
Pete Sessions  
Member of Congress



Sanford Bishop  
Member of Congress



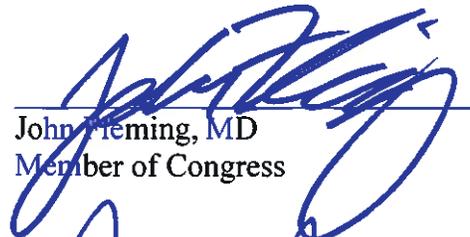
Bill Flores  
Member of Congress



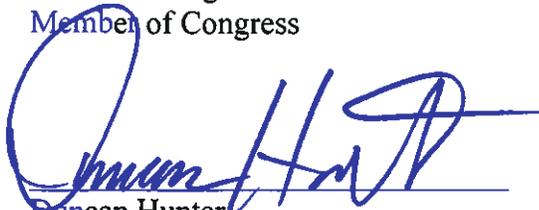
Scott Perry  
Member of Congress



Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress



John Fleming, MD  
Member of Congress



Duncan Hunter  
Member of Congress



Brian Babin  
Member of Congress



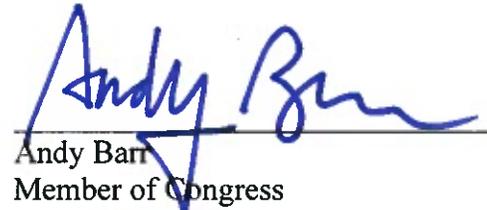
David Joyce  
Member of Congress



Randy Hultgren  
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress



Andy Barr  
Member of Congress



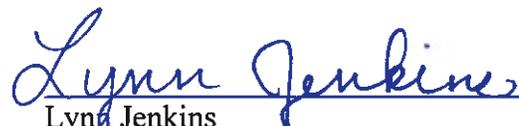
Scott Tipton  
Member of Congress



Al Green  
Member of Congress



John Moolenaar  
Member of Congress



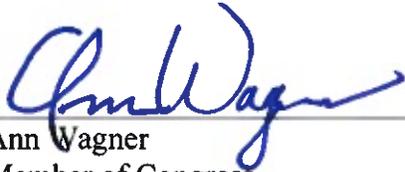
Lynn Jenkins  
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith  
Member of Congress



Stephen Fincher  
Member of Congress



Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress



Billy Long  
Member of Congress



Brad Ashford  
Member of Congress



Ken Buck  
Member of Congress



Susan Brooks  
Member of Congress



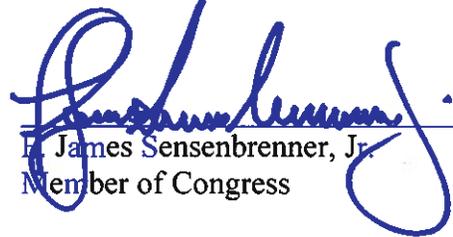
Evan Jenkins  
Member of Congress



Renee Ellmers  
Member of Congress



Steve Scalise  
Member of Congress



James Sensenbrenner, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Randy Weber  
Member of Congress



Brett Guthrie  
Member of Congress



Mike Pompeo  
Member of Congress



Rick Crawford  
Member of Congress



Tim Ryan  
Member of Congress



Austin Scott  
Member of Congress



Hal Rogers  
Member of Congress



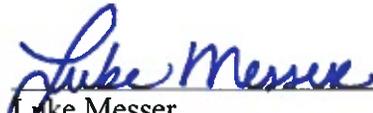
Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones  
Member of Congress



Randy Neugebauer  
Member of Congress



Luke Messer  
Member of Congress



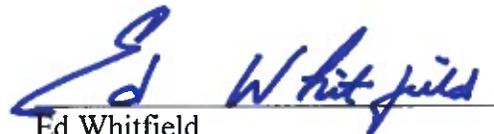
Mo Brooks  
Member of Congress



Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress



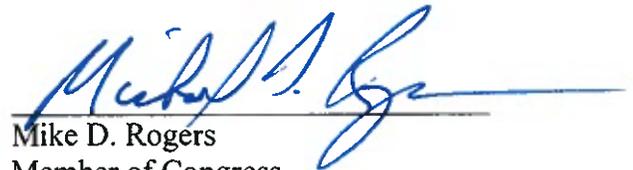
Steve Stivers  
Member of Congress



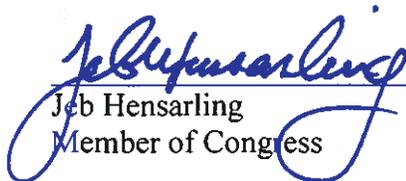
Ed Whitfield  
Member of Congress



Collin Peterson  
Member of Congress



Mike D. Rogers  
Member of Congress



Jeb Hensarling  
Member of Congress



Patrick Tiberi  
Member of Congress



Markwayne Mullin  
Member of Congress



Rob Woodall  
Member of Congress



Alex Mooney  
Member of Congress



Fred Upton  
Member of Congress



Joe Barton  
Member of Congress



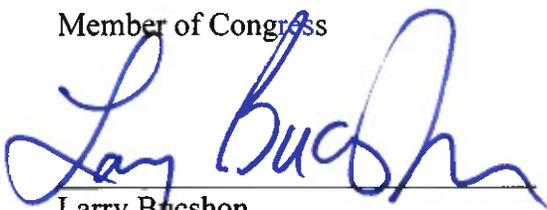
Brad Wenstrup  
Member of Congress



Chuck Fleischmann  
Member of Congress



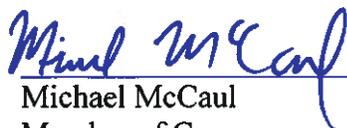
David Schweikert  
Member of Congress



Larry Bucshon  
Member of Congress



Cedric Richmond  
Member of Congress



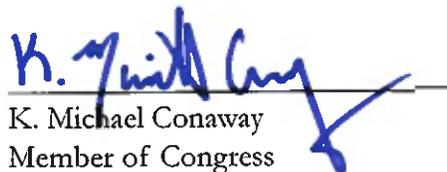
Michael McCaul  
Member of Congress



Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress



Kay Granger  
Member of Congress



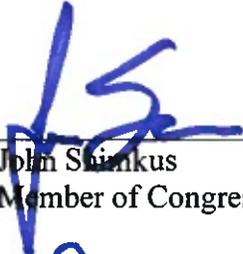
K. Michael Conaway  
Member of Congress



Rosa DeLauro  
Member of Congress



Doug Collins  
Member of Congress



John Shimkus  
Member of Congress



Tom Marino  
Member of Congress



Diane Black  
Member of Congress



David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis  
Member of Congress



Keith Rothfus  
Member of Congress



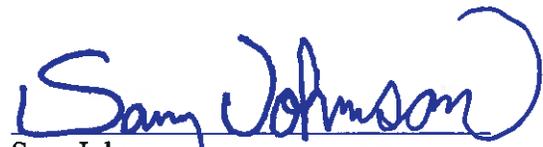
Terri Sewell  
Member of Congress



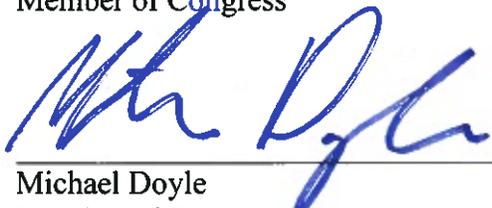
Ted S. Yoho, D.V.M.  
Member of Congress



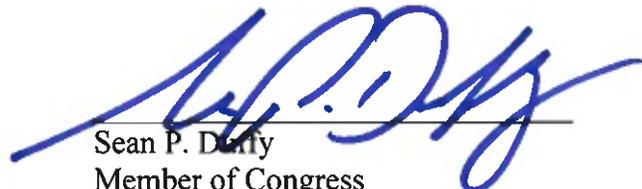
Chris Collins  
Member of Congress



Sam Johnson  
Member of Congress



Michael Doyle  
Member of Congress



Sean P. Duffy  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Culberson  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Filemon Vela  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Todd Young  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Smith  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phil Roe, M.D.  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marsha Blackburn  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Walorski  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Simpson  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andy Harris  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Forbes  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve King  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vicky Hartzler  
Member of Congress

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ryan Zinke  
Member of Congress



Will Hurd  
Member of Congress



Patrick McHenry  
Member of Congress



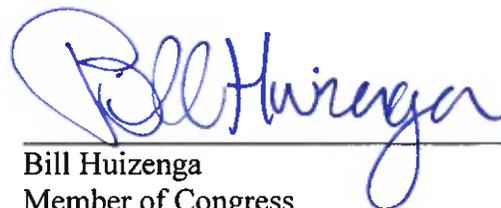
Kevin Brady  
Member of Congress



Charles W. Dent  
Member of Congress



Lou Barletta  
Member of Congress



Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress



Blaine Luetkemeyer  
Member of Congress



Tim Huelskamp  
Member of Congress



Rick Allen  
Member of Congress



Steve Pearce  
Member of Congress



Joseph R. Pitts  
Member of Congress



Tim Murphy  
Member of Congress



Jeff Deaham  
Member of Congress



Dan Benishek, M.D.  
Member of Congress

The Honorable Gina McCarthy  
July 28, 2015  
Page 12



---

Bradley Byrne  
Member of Congress



---

Rod Blum  
Member of Congress