



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAR 25 2013

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Barry R. Wallerstein  
Co-President and Co-Chair  
NACAA Mobile Sources and Fuels Committee  
National Association of Clean Air Agencies  
444 North Capitol Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Wallerstein:

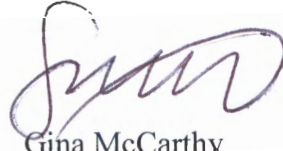
Thank you for your letter of January 22, 2013, co-signed by Ms. Nancy Seidman, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, urging the proposal of "Tier 3" light-duty vehicle emissions and gasoline standards and finalization of these standards by December 31, 2013. The EPA is developing the Tier 3 standards to respond to the critical need to improve air quality and to enable a harmonized national vehicle emissions control program. The EPA shares your goal of reducing air pollution across the United States. The Tier 3 standards have the potential to achieve significant benefits.

As mentioned in your letter, state and local agencies are challenged with finding effective emission reduction measures to meet their clean air obligations. This Tier 3 rule would reduce motor vehicle emissions and help state and local areas attain and maintain the existing health-based air quality standards in a cost-effective and timely way. The reductions in ozone and particulate matter would avoid premature mortality and other health impacts, including respiratory symptoms in children and exacerbation of asthma.

The Tier 3 standards would, when finalized, create a comprehensive regulatory approach that provides certainty for both the auto and oil industries. Under a single harmonized national vehicle program, the Tier 3 standards under consideration would provide for coordinated implementation with the California vehicle program and the EPA and Department of Transportation's recently finalized light-duty vehicle standards to reduce carbon pollution and improve fuel economy for model years 2017 through 2025. A timely Tier 3 program is critical to addressing the impacts of motor vehicles on air quality and public health; therefore, we intend to issue proposed Tier 3 standards in March of 2013 and finalize these standards by the end of 2013.

We appreciate your bringing the Navigant Economics study to our attention, and we will consider this study as we develop the final rulemaking. Again, thank you for your letter and for your continued support of the Tier 3 program. I appreciate your commitment to achieving clean air for all citizens, and I look forward to continuing to work together towards that goal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gina McCarthy", is centered on the page. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Gina McCarthy  
Assistant Administrator

cc: Mr. William Becker  
Executive Director



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OFFICE OF  
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Nancy L. Seidman  
Co-Chair NACAA Mobile Sources and Fuels Committee  
National Association of Clean Air Agencies  
444 North Capitol Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

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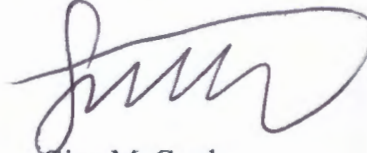
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Gina McCarthy  
Assistant Administrator