



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

December 20, 2016

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Wayne Nastri
Acting Executive Officer
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, California 91765

Dear Mr. Nastri:

On June 3, 2016, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Pima County Dept. of Environmental Quality, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Connecticut Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection, Delaware Dept. of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Washoe County Health District, New Hampshire Dept. of Environmental Services, New York City Dept. of Environmental Protection, Akron Regional Air Quality Management District, Washington State Dept. of Ecology, and Puget Sound Clean Air Agency ("Petitioners") sent a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or the Agency) petitioning the Agency to conduct a rulemaking to establish new ultra-low NOx emission standards for heavy-duty engines and trucks.

Shortly thereafter, a number of other organizations notified the Agency that they were also joining this petition, including Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Coalition for Clean Air, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, San Bernardino Associated Governments, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Port of Los Angeles, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, and California Air Pollution Control Officers Association.

In the following memorandum, the EPA provides its response to the June 3 petition. In summary, the EPA will initiate work necessary to issue a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking with the intention of proposing standards that could begin in Model Year 2024 (a major engine and vehicle standards implementation milestone year in the heavy-duty Phase 2 GHG program), consistent with the lead-time requirements of the Clean Air Act.

As the EPA develops this proposal the Agency will engage with a wide range of stakeholders, including the petitioners, the heavy-duty vehicle and engine manufacturers, labor unions, technology suppliers, environmental non-governmental organizations, state and local air quality agencies which were not part of the petition, truck dealerships, trucking fleets, truck drivers and truck owners. The EPA plans to work closely with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to consider the development of a new harmonized Federal and California program to reduce NOx emissions from heavy-duty on-highway engines and vehicles that could be adopted not only by the EPA, but also by CARB, in order to maintain a 50-state program.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the enclosed memorandum, please contact Bill Charmley, Director, Assessment and Standards Division, Office of Transportation and Air Quality at 734-214-4466.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Janet G. McCabe".

Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator

Enclosure