



Catherine H. Smith
Commissioner

Department of Economic and
Community Development

Connecticut
still revolutionary

March 14, 2017

Scott Pruitt, EPA Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters
William Jefferson Clinton Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Mail Code: 1101A
Washington, DC 20460

RE: *Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0596; Response to December 9, 2013, Clean Air Act
Section 176A Petition*

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

The Connecticut Department of Economic Development and Community Development's ("CTDECD") mission is to develop and implement strategies to increase the state's economic competitiveness. It is for this mission that compels me to voice our thorough dismay that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to deny the Clean Air Act Section 176A Petition filed by nine Northeast States including Connecticut. Connecticut's citizens and industries have suffered the environmental and economic impacts from interstate ozone transport for over forty years. This puts Connecticut at a competitive disadvantage attracting new industry and impedes expansion when our industries are subject to costly regulatory burdens our upwind competitors do not face.

Due to Connecticut's ozone nonattainment status, industries are required to install the most stringent emissions controls in the country when building a plant and have to purchase pollution credits to offset new emissions. This can add significant cost for impacted companies. The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has implemented a number of control programs to address Connecticut's "home-grown" emissions and we now need EPA to demonstrate strong leadership and develop a transport remedy that levels the playing field for our companies and economy.

I urge EPA to reconsider and approve the Clean Air Act Section 176A Petition to include Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, West Virginia, and the remainder of the state of Virginia in the Ozone Transport Region.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Smith
Commissioner