US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

To All State Air Program Directors

Dear Sir/Madam:

On July 17, 1997, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promulgated more stringent National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone and particulate matter. At the same time, President Clinton directed the Agency to implement the newly revised standards in a common-sense, cost-effective manner. An important element of the implementation plan is inclusion of flexible regulatory alternatives in State Implementation Plans to minimize the impact of these regulations on small businesses as much as possible consistent with public health protection. The enclosed guidance outlines potential implementation strategies that would mitigate adverse impacts on small sources and encourages States to make use of these strategies wherever possible and appropriate.

This guidance includes implementation strategies currently in use and those which are in the conceptual stages. These strategies are intended solely as guidance, do not represent final Agency action, and cannot be relied upon to create any rights enforceable by any party. As noted above, this document represents EPA's early thinking on these strategies. Future guidance or rules may establish strategies that differ from those described here, as EPA develops those strategies in partnership with interested parties.

I hope that this information is useful to you. Please consider these implementation strategies when developing your state plans in order to mitigate potential adverse impacts on small business.

Sincerely,

John S. Seitz
Director
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