

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Honorable Thomas J. Carper
Governor
State of Delaware
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Governor Carper:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed. Under a separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. In the absence of a state submission, the Clean Air

Act requires us to put in place a federal plan. We look forward to working with you to meet the NOx SIP Call requirements.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NOx reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NOx SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NOx SIP Call are already required to reduce NOx emissions as the result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NOx SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: Nicholas A. DiPasquale
M. Jane Brady

Honorable Anthony Williams
Mayor
District of Columbia
One Judiciary Square
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mayor Williams:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the

NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NOx reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NOx SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NOx SIP Call are already required to reduce NOx emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NOx SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: Theodore J. Gordon

Honorable Frank O'Bannon
Governor
State of Indiana
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Mayor O'Bannon:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those

few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NO_x reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NO_x SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NO_x SIP Call are already required to reduce NO_x emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NO_x SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: Lori F. Kaplan
Karen Freeman-Wilson

Honorable Paul E. Patton
Governor
State of Kentucky
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Governor Patton:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those

few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NO_x reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NO_x SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NO_x SIP Call are already required to reduce NO_x emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NO_x SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: James E. Bickford
Albert B. Chandler, III

Honorable Parris Glendening
Governor
State of Maryland
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Governor Glendening:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those

few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NO_x reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NO_x SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NO_x SIP Call are already required to reduce NO_x emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NO_x SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: Jane T. Nishida
J. Joseph Curran, Jr.

Honorable James B. Hunt, Jr.
Governor
State of North Carolina
Raleigh, NC 27603-8001

Dear Governor Hunt:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the

NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NOx reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NOx SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NOx SIP Call are already required to reduce NOx emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NOx SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: Bill Holman
Michael F. Easley

Honorable George E. Pataki
Governor
State of New York
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Pataki:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those

few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NO_x reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NO_x SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NO_x SIP Call are already required to reduce NO_x emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NO_x SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: John P. Cahill
Eliot Spitzer

Honorable Bob Taft
Governor
State of Ohio
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Governor Taft:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those

few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NO_x reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NO_x SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NO_x SIP Call are already required to reduce NO_x emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NO_x SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: Christopher Jones
Betty D. Montgomery

Honorable Thomas Ridge
Governor
State of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Ridge:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those

few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NO_x reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NO_x SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NO_x SIP Call are already required to reduce NO_x emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NO_x SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: James M. Seif
D. Michael Fisher

Honorable James S. Gilmore, III
Governor
State of Virginia
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Governor Gilmore:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those

few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NO_x reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NO_x SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NO_x SIP Call are already required to reduce NO_x emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NO_x SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: John Paul Woodley
Mark L. Earley

Honorable Cecil Underwood
Governor
State of West Virginia
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Governor Underwood:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those

few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NO_x reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NO_x SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NO_x SIP Call are already required to reduce NO_x emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NO_x SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: Michael Castle
Darrel V. McGraw, Jr.

Honorable George H. Ryan
Governor
State of Illinois
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Ryan:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those

few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NO_x reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NO_x SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NO_x SIP Call are already required to reduce NO_x emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NO_x SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: Thomas V. Skinner
Jim Ryan

Honorable Jim Hodges
Governor
State of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29211

Dear Governor Hodges:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP Call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP Call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those

few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NO_x reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NO_x SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NO_x SIP Call are already required to reduce NO_x emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NO_x SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: Robert L. Shaw
Charlie Condon

Honorable Don Sundquist
Governor
State of Tennessee
Nashville, TN 37219-5081

Dear Governor Sundquist:

I am pleased to inform you that today we are taking the next step to move forward with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) far-reaching approach to protect the health of over a hundred million Americans living in the eastern United States from harmful levels of air pollution. This action should significantly reduce air pollution from coal-fired power plants and other large industrial facilities. Not only do those emissions threaten public health in nearby areas, they also threaten communities hundreds of miles away. Reducing these emissions will prevent thousands of smog-related illnesses each year, including aggravated cases of childhood asthma. This plan can be achieved through cost-effective, readily achievable reductions.

After EPA issued the NOx SIP Call in September 1998 to reduce smog across the eastern United States, several parties challenged us in court. Last May, as an interim measure, the Court stayed the requirement that States submit their plans to address transported smog. On March 3, 2000, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision largely upholding the NOx SIP Call.

In light of the public health benefits at stake and the March 3, 2000 court decision upholding the NOx SIP call, we intend to move forward expeditiously in implementing the regional strategy to reduce smog. Although the Court remanded a few narrow issues to the Agency for further action, the part of the program left intact covers over 90% of the emission reductions required by the NOx SIP Call in those states where it still applies.

The EPA and Department of Justice have been working closely together to take action in response to the Court's decision. Today we are filing a motion with the Court asking it to lift its stay of the date for states to submit revised air pollution control plans in response to the NOx SIP Call. If the Court grants our request, you and the other states still subject to the NOx SIP Call will need to submit control plans by September 1, 2000 for those portions of the NOx SIP call upheld by the Court. In the absence of a state submission by that date, the Clean Air Act provides for EPA to put in place a federal plan. Under separate cover, your Environmental Commissioner will receive additional details and information about how we calculated the amount of NOx your state needs to reduce. We look forward to working with you to meet the NOx SIP Call requirements. Additionally, EPA will conduct an expeditious rulemaking on those

few issues remanded by the Court. After that rulemaking, you will have additional time to supplement your control plan as needed.

It is important that we move forward with plans to reduce smog levels by May 1, 2003. When some states asked the Court to stay the rule, they stated that it would not delay achieving cleaner air by May 2003. Our technical analysis supports that realizing these NO_x reductions by 2003 is feasible without endangering the reliability of the electric power supply. The NO_x SIP Call also includes a compliance supplement pool that allows states to provide significant flexibility to avoid reliability problems. Over 40% of the power plants that states could choose to regulate under the NO_x SIP Call are already required to reduce NO_x emissions as a result of EPA's recent action on petitions submitted by Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania to reduce air pollution from upwind sources. Our goal is to provide a coordinated approach that satisfies both the NO_x SIP Call and EPA's action on the state petitions

I believe it is essential to move forward as quickly as possible to achieve the public health benefits from this ground-breaking strategy. My staff is ready to assist you as you develop your plan. By acting expeditiously, you can secure cleaner air for the citizens of your State and other states in the eastern United States.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Browner

cc: Milton H. Hamilton, Jr.
Paul G. Summers