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To: Lt. Governor's OfficeLTGov@scstatehouse.gov
Date: 11/2/2017 10:53:43 AM
Subject: Regulatory Certainty on Ozone Can Protect U.S. Competitiveness

November 2, 2017

Regulatory Certainty on Ozone Can Protect U.S. Competitiveness

Dear Kevin,

The combined emissions of six key air pollutants dropped 73 percent between 1970 and 2016, according to the Environmental Protection Agency's latest annual air quality report, and ground level ozone levels have decreased 17 percent since 2005. All this occurred during a time of significant economic growth, and these are achievements we all can and should be proud of since it is the result of the combined efforts of states, counties and [industry to reduce air emissions](#).

Congress can ensure continued environmental and economic progress by implementing [reforms to ozone regulations](#) that eliminate duplicative regulatory requirements. In simple terms, EPA issued new ozone regulations in 2015 before its existing 2008 regulations –*the strictest in history*– had been fully implemented. That is leaving states in the costly position of attempting to comply with [two competing sets of ozone regulations](#).

To understand how important reform is, take a look at the long and varied list of [303 organizations that wrote a letter](#) explaining the economic impact of dueling standards that, in some cases, require states to achieve ozone levels approaching or below naturally occurring levels of ozone. The coalition includes local governments, chambers of commerce, businesses, and associations representing: manufacturers, construction workers, energy producers, dairy farmers, cattlemen, auto dealers, truckers, timber producers, restaurant and hospitality groups, poultry producers, convenience stores, engineers, grocers, retailers, and many others.

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priority with major economic implications for the entire nation. We urge the Senate to join the House in passing commonsense ozone regulatory reform.

Sincerely,

Jack Gerard
President and CEO
API

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