June 19, 2015

The Honorable Gina McCarthy
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) should adopt a primary ozone national ambient air quality standard consistent with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, including consideration of the latest scientific information. In particular, the standard should be consistent with the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee’s recommendations and allow an “adequate margin of safety” to ensure the protection of public health.

Air quality has improved markedly under the existing framework of the Clean Air Act. Nevertheless, the science clearly demonstrates that adverse health impacts continue to occur at current ozone levels.

Over its 45-year history, the Clean Air Act has saved hundreds of thousands of lives and generated trillions of dollars in economic benefits to our nation. Compliance with national ambient air quality standards has consistently proven less costly and more beneficial than either its critics or supporters predicted. The health and environmental benefits associated with cleaner air continue to outweigh the costs of achieving those standards.

The 2008 primary ozone standard is inadequate to protect public health. We urge you to finalize the proposed ozone standards in a timely manner that reflects sound science and settled law.

Sincerely,

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
California

Governor Maggie Hassan
New Hampshire