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## On the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Cleaner Trucks Initiative

*Statement of Arthur Marin, Executive Director  
Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM)*

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The Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM)<sup>1</sup> support stronger national emission limits for nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) for onroad heavy-duty diesel truck engines. EPA last adopted heavy-duty vehicle and engine NO<sub>x</sub> standards for highway vehicles in 2001. Since then, diesel engine technologies have advanced, and are now capable of achieving an additional 90% reduction in NO<sub>x</sub> while also improving fuel use efficiency beyond current requirements.

In the Northeast, onroad diesel trucks are major contributors to unhealthy levels of ground-level ozone and fine particulate matter. Because onroad trucks often travel long distances and can be registered in states far from where they operate, the states need strong national pollution standards to cover vehicles and engines not under their regulatory authority.

In setting new diesel engine NO<sub>x</sub> standards, EPA should adopt the most stringent technically feasible and cost-effective limits available. Promulgation of new standards will also need to be expedited on the quickest timeline possible in order to assist states in meeting statutory deadlines for reducing air pollution within their borders. If set at the appropriate level on an expedited schedule, new onroad heavy-duty truck engine standards would provide a low-cost pollution reduction opportunity that brings cleaner air sooner to our region.

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<sup>1</sup> NESCAUM is a nonprofit association of air quality agencies in the Northeast. Its Board of Directors consists of the air directors of the six New England states (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont), New Jersey, and New York. NESCAUM provides scientific, technical, analytical, and policy support to the air quality and climate programs of the eight northeast states, including assistance with the implementation of national environmental programs required under the Clean Air Act and other federal legislation.