



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 13 2007

THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

Thank you for your letter of June 13, 2007, regarding California's pending request for a waiver of Section 209 of the Clean Air Act. In your letter you reference my June 8, 2007 testimony before the House of Representatives Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming. You incorrectly state that I testified EPA would wait until late next year to decide on whether to grant California's waiver request. I did not make a statement on the timeframe for a final decision on the waiver. I did, however, state that EPA would make a final decision on the Federal Government's regulatory effort to address greenhouse gas emissions from new vehicles by the end of 2008. The proposed regulations and the waiver request are separate decisions, and therefore we will proceed accordingly.

When we last spoke, I committed that my staff and I would work expeditiously to complete a thorough and legal review of the waiver request, and we are doing so. I have received requests to extend this comment period, but have declined to grant these extensions in an effort to continue moving forward as expeditiously as possible. By law, the Agency must follow a rigorous process when reviewing these waiver requests. EPA is legally obligated to stay within these boundaries and we will not compromise our legal obligations.

The comment period closes Friday, June 15. I will inform you next week of our intended time frame for making a decision on California's petition. Thank you for your continued interest in this important matter. I look forward to working with you on this and other important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. L. Johnson".

Stephen L. Johnson