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Executive Office of Energy and
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April 26, 2007

Honorable Stephen L. Johnson
Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Mail Code: 1101A
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Regulations to Control Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Motor Vehicles; Request for Waiver of Preemption Under Clean Air Act Section 209(b), DOCKET ID EPA-HQ-OAR-2006-0173

Dear Administrator Johnson:

I am writing to strongly support California's request for a waiver under Clean Air Act section 209(b) (42 U.S.C. § 7543(b)) for California's greenhouse gas emission (GHG) standards for new cars and light trucks. California's waiver request has been pending at EPA since December 21, 2005.

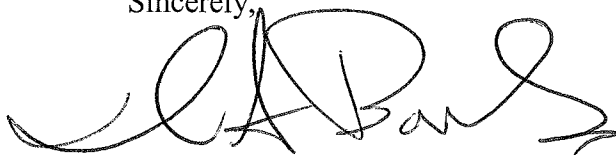
Massachusetts is one of 11 states that have exercised their option under Clean Air Act Section 177 to adopt California's motor vehicle greenhouse gas emission standards as their own. In fact, Massachusetts law requires implementation of California's more stringent motor vehicle emission standards. (See Mass. Gen. Laws c. 111, §142K.) Massachusetts's program tracks California's, and as such applies to the 2009 model year. Manufacturers will have the opportunity to market the 2009 models beginning in the calendar year 2008. Completing the waiver process by October 2007 is essential if Massachusetts is to stay consistent with California's program and, more importantly, realize the air quality benefits of reducing GHG emissions from mobile sources in Massachusetts.

California's waiver submittal provides a valid demonstration that its greenhouse gas emission standards meet relevant waiver criteria. See http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/docs/att2_support.pdf. The recent Supreme Court decision in *Massachusetts v. EPA* ___ U.S. ___, 127 S.Ct. 1438, 75 U.S.L.W. 4149 (2007) strengthens that demonstration. California has submitted a schedule under which U.S. EPA can and should grant

the waiver within 180 days. While I am encouraged that EPA recently scheduled a public hearing for May 22, 2007, my hope is that the waiver will be issued expeditiously. Massachusetts therefore strongly supports the waiver request and the California Air Resources Board's recent letter notifying EPA of its intent to file suit should EPA fail to take final agency action during that time period.

Please enter this letter in the subject docket.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Dickinson", written in a cursive style.

Secretary

cc: David Dickinson
EPA Office of Transportation and Air Quality
USEPA Headquarters
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Mail Code: 6405J
Washington, DC 20460

Other NE Commissioners
Bill Becker, NACAA