



JOHN E. BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

DAVID P. LITTELL
COMMISSIONER

April 25, 2007

Honorable Stephen L. Johnson
Administrator, U.S. EPA Headquarters
Ariel Rios Building Mail Code: 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
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 continued and now unreasonably delayed request for a waiver under Clean Air Act section 209(b) (42 U.S.C. § 7543(b)) for California's greenhouse gas emission standards for new cars and light trucks.

As you may know, Maine is one of many 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. This is because Maine has a vital interest in reducing global warming emissions from vehicular and other sources in our state. The need for action is no longer in dispute, as again confirmed recently by the world's scientists. I would refer you to the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report on climate change impacts, adaptation and vulnerability.

California's December 21, 2005 waiver submittal provided a solid demonstration that its greenhouse gas emission standards meet relevant waiver criteria. The recent *Massachusetts v. EPA* (2007) ___ U.S. ___ [127 S.Ct. 1438, 75 U.S.L.W. 4149] decision only strengthens that demonstration. While we are pleased that you have recently announced the comment period and public hearing on California's request, we are mindful that California submitted its request over 15 months ago. With your recent announcement, we are hopeful that a positive decision is finally forthcoming from EPA. However, in light of the significant time that has already passed without constructive steps taken, Maine supports California's recent letter noticing its intent to file an unreasonable delay suit if U.S. EPA continues to 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. Littell".

David P. Littell
Commissioner

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