UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27711

DEC 3 1 2002

OFFICE OF
AIR QUALITY PLANNING
AND STANDARDS

Mr. Michael P. Kenny
Executive Officer
Air Resources Board
California Environmental Protection Agency
1001 I Street - P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, California 95812

Dear Mr. Kenny:

I want to thank you for your letter of December 5, 2002, to Assistant Administrator Jeffrey Holmstead concerning transition from implementation of the 1-hour ozone air quality standard to implementation of the 8-hour ozone air quality standard. Both Jeff and I share your goal of ensuring expeditious progress toward clean air and we agree that it is absolutely necessary to maintain the momentum of existing control programs.

We plan to propose early next year a rule for implementing the 8-hour ozone standard that addresses, among other things, the transition from the 1-hour standard to the 8-hour standard. We are exploring ways to ensure that existing controls are not weakened and that air quality is improved, not degraded. I believe that the options we intend to propose will achieve the objectives that we both share.

Again, thank you for your letter. I appreciate the opportunity to be of service and trust that the information provided is helpful.

Sincerely,

Stephen D. Page
Director
Office of Air Quality Planning
and Standards

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