

Notice of Availability of Report by Stratus Consulting Inc.
“Development and Evaluation of a Targeted Emission Reduction Scenario for NO_x Point Sources
in the Eastern United States:
An Application of the Regional Economic Model for Air Quality (REMAQ)”
Report dated November 24, 1999

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces the availability of a research report by Stratus Consulting, Inc., on the regional, or multi-state, nature of ground-level ozone (smog). The report is part of EPA’s continuing commitment to research cost-effective strategies that could be used to protect public health by reducing smog.

The research described in this report relies on computer modeling of areas with poor air quality in 1995-1997 to predict how much sources of air pollution (such as power plants) will contribute to ozone formation in downwind areas in the future. The report generally confirms that ozone and its precursors are often carried great distances downwind and that ozone concentrations cannot be controlled by an individual state when the sources that cause the state’s pollution are upwind. The report also confirms that a multi-state emissions trading program is a cost-effective approach to this regional problem.

The research methods used in this report have not yet undergone external review and comment, and are still in development. Use of this methodology for policy or regulation development would have to address a number of unresolved issues identified in the report, a refinement process that would require substantial future effort. EPA believes that the methodologies used in this study, as well as other approaches that characterize ozone transport, may prove to be valuable in further understanding the regional transport of ozone and its control.

The report will be available electronically at the contractor’s web site:
<http://www.stratusconsulting.com/staff/publications.htm#REMAQ>

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