

Citizens Advisory Council

to the Department of Environmental Protection

P.O. Box 8459 = Rachel Carson State Office Building Harrisburg, PA 17105-8459 = 717-787-4527 = Fax 717-787-2878 June 13, 2008

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE DEP BUREAU OF AIR QUAL TY

Joyce E. Epps, Esquire
Director, Bureau of Air Quality
Department of Environmental Protection
12th Floor, Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17105

RE: Final Rulemaking:
Restrictions on Diesel Vehicle Idling;
Auxiliary Power Systems Regulation
25 *PA Code* Chapter 126, Subchapter F

Dear Ms. Epps:

On May 20, 2008, the Bureau of Air Quality presented the final rulemaking for diesel vehicle idling and auxiliary power systems to the Citizens Advisory Council's Air Committee. On that same date, on the recommendation of the Air Committee, the Council voted to concur with proceeding to the Environmental Quality Board.

Council recognizes that the growth of the trucking and warehouse/distribution industry provides a significant contribution to the state's economy. At the same time, however, the preponderance of trucks using our state's roads and idling for long periods at our rest stops and truck facilities contributes pounds of pollutant dust to Pennsylvania's air.

While it's possible that the cost of fuel may prompt trucking companies to voluntarily restrict idling by their drivers, the need for this regulation cannot be overstated. The exhaust produced by diesel engines is a hazardous mixture containing hundreds of chemical compounds that contribute to ground-level ozone formation, particulate matter, regional haze and acid rain. Additionally, diesel emissions can cause irritation and inflammation in the eyes and throat, lightheadedness and nausea, as well as respiratory problems. Diesel exhaust aggravates existing allergies and asthma symptoms. Modern technology, i.e., truckstop electrification, can control diesel emissions and avoid the need to run large diesel engines only for heating and cooling.

In addition to our support of this regulation, Council also continues to support efforts by DEP to partner with the industry and assist with the transition.

Council thanks the Bureau for providing regular updates on air issues, policies and regulations. We look forward to future discussions. If there are any questions about Council's action of May 20, 2008, please contact Sue Wilson, Council's Executive Director, at 787-4527.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Carrow Chair, CAC Margaret Urban
Chair, Air Committe

cc: Susan Hoyle Arleen Shulman Michele Tate