

Burke, Ruth A

From: El Fraser <elfraser041@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 2:43 PM
To: Crawford, Jeff S
Subject: Pullback, exemption or rescinding of Air Quality Standards in Maine

Dear Mr. Crawford:

No, no and please no. As a full time resident of South Portland - please NO!! ~-"Maine Department of Environmental Protection is asking federal regulators to exempt parts of Maine from tougher emissions standards for pollutants that cause smog or ground-level ozone."~~ Portland Press Herald

As someone who is elderly and can have asthma difficulties and does have life long extreme allergies besides, we cannot afford to go back to the worst of worst policies which provide no environmental protections. We cannot.

The value nature of even the current regulations,
is that they
do not go far enough

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and to think otherwise is to deny scientific reality. Benzene is already in concentrations that are too high to be safe (absolutely true here in the Portland/South Portland area). It's a Level 1 carcinogen.

The WHO states...

~~"A 2013 assessment by WHO's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) concluded that outdoor air pollution is carcinogenic to humans, with the particulate matter component of air pollution most closely associated with increased cancer incidence, especially lung cancer. An association also has been observed between outdoor air pollution and increase in cancer of the urinary tract/bladder."~~~

Link here: [http://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/ambient-\(outdoor\)-air-quality-and-health](http://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/ambient-(outdoor)-air-quality-and-health)

And finally a quote from Dr. Marguerite Pennoyer - an Allergist/Immunologist here in Maine who is in a leadership position in Maine's branch of the American Lung Association.

~~"Dr. Marguerite Pennoyer, an allergy and immunology specialist from Scarborough, compared the health impacts of ground-level ozone to "a sunburn on the lungs" that is particularly dangerous to those with asthma."~~~

We cannot go backwards. My father was born and raised in Donora, PA which had one of the first KILLING industrial smogs to occur in the U.S. in the 50's. We cannot return to these days and must not only uphold the laws we now have, but strengthen them. A dot to the "i" speaks to the fact that we would be in a sorry state if our air quality diminishes - we **RELY ON TOURISM**.

Thank you.

Ellen Fraser

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