

Burke, Ruth A

From: Neil Gallagher <hollowtree0511@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 4:40 PM
To: Crawford, Jeff S
Subject: Keep Maine's Air Clean!

Dear Jeffrey Crawford,

I oppose the Department of Environmental Protection's petition to take most of Maine out of the Ozone Transport Region. Weakening Maine's participation in this agreement is the wrong direction for Maine, including the fact that it creates an opening for other states to leave as well, resulting in more ozone pollution for Maine. Given our geographic position, we need strong clean air protections in those upwind states, and in order to achieve that, we need to stay fully committed to this agreement. Maine has some of the highest rates of asthma in the entire country, and we sit at the tailpipe of the nation. We need to continue to move forward on clean air protections instead of backward.

I grew up in Northeastern Pennsylvania, in the anthracite region, where air quality was terrible. One of my brothers and I developed asthma early on, and still carry the burden of it. I feel privileged to live where the air is much better than it was for me then, though it is still not what it should and could be, and I dread the thought that the state would do anything to risk that. Please do not take any steps backwards.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Neil Gallagher

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