

## Burke, Ruth A

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**From:** Jesse McMahon <scuppers1314@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 08, 2018 12:16 PM  
**To:** Crawford, Jeff S  
**Subject:** Keep Maine's Air Clean!

Dear Jeffrey Crawford,

I strongly oppose the Department of Environmental Protection's petition to take most of Maine out of the Ozone Transport Region. Maine's greatest asset is its natural beauty and appeal worldwide to tourists. Clean air is a critical component of that appeal. No one wants to visit a place where taking a deep breath hurts your lungs. Maine is already the "tailpipe" of the nation with some of the highest rates of asthma in the country, and to weaken regulations that can further impact our air is a step backwards. It's also a step that will cost us economically in the long run--not to mention the cost to public health.

It astounds me that with daily, tangible evidence of our changing climate, a Department of Environmental Protection in any state, let alone Maine, would even consider leaving an agreement that lessens the effect of human activity on the environment in favor of allowing an increase in emissions. Your job is to \*protect\* the air we breathe, the water we drink, the soil in which we grow our food--not the interests of industry. We're already at a breaking point. What side of history do you want to be on? The side that shrugged its shoulders and looked to squeeze a few last dollars out of the planet's dwindling resources? Or the side that stood up and said there's a better, more sustainable path and, at the very least, maintained current standards.

Sincerely,  
Jesse McMahon

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