



July 31, 2015

Dear Mr. President,

We write to you on behalf of the hundreds of businesses and tens of thousands of employees represented by the New Mexico Association of Commerce and Industry. For the sake of New Mexico's families, we respectfully urge the President not to allow the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to impose the proposed 65 ppb ground level ozone standard.

It is estimated that the proposed new regulations will cost New Mexico a devastating \$8 billion loss in our gross state product by 2040, with nearly 10,000 jobs lost per year, and \$5 billion in total compliance costs—for our state alone! Mr. President, New Mexico is already in a difficult economic position. We have one of the highest unemployment rates in the country, we have not recovered as quickly as other states, and over 100,000 New Mexicans are out of work or underemployed. New regulations like these would certainly have a disproportionate impact on our state, and drive impoverished and struggling New Mexicans even further from hope.

Moreover, all these costs come for alarmingly little gain. Ground-level ozone concentrations in the U.S. are already a recognized victory, with over 30% reduction in recent decades and little more progress to be made. Top officials in your administration have acknowledged that nationwide, the existing standard of 75 ppb represents a point of diminishing returns and even a floor in ozone concentrations: reducing concentrations further is exponentially more expensive and in some cases technology does not even exist to feasibly meet the new standards. Over a hundred million Americans still live in regions that have not reached the existing standards: it is a more economical and effective use of resources to target these regions, rather than seeking the unattainable and economically devastating standards proposed by the EPA.

For these reasons, we request your opposition to the EPA's proposed ground level ozone standard. Nothing less than the livelihoods and futures of New Mexico's families are at stake.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Espinoza', written in a cursive style.

Jason Espinoza  
President  
New Mexico Association of Commerce and Industry

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Seely', written in a cursive style.

David Seely  
President & CEO, Kirtland Federal Credit Union  
Chair, ACI Federal Policy Committee

CC:

Senator Tom Udall  
Senator Martin Heinrich  
Representative Steve Pearce  
Representative Ben-Ray Lujan  
Representative Michelle Lujan-Grisham