March 9, 2017

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
Administrator
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
William Jefferson Clinton Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

RE:  *Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0596; Response to December 9, 2013, Clean Air Act Section 176A Petition*

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

In December 2013, the State of Connecticut, along with eight other states, petitioned the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to add nine upwind states to the Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) to address inequities Connecticut faces from the illegal transport of interstate air pollution. Today, more than three years later, the air pollution from upwind states continues to cross our state line – causing severe impacts in our state.

EPA’s proposed decision to deny the petition that has been filed under Section 176A of the Clean Air Act is unjust and unfair. The failure of upwind states to make investments needed to operate power plants and industrial facilities in an efficient and clean manner – just as we have in Connecticut and the other petitioning states – is exacting a steep price on the health of both the people and economy of my state, along with many other states. EPA’s failure to provide a complete remedy for interstate air pollution transport and denial of this petition will perpetuate this injustice.

As you might recall, I had the opportunity to raise this issue with you in person at the White House, during the recent National Governors Association convening in Washington, D.C. I am again requesting that you carefully consider your agency’s obligation to protecting the health of American citizen’s, which is greatly impacted by this issue, as well as the environment.

Now is the time to require upwind states to take action. EPA must move to include the petitioned states in the collaborative and efficient OTC process to resolve finally the illegal
transport of air pollution into Connecticut. Connecticut is tired of serving as the tailpipe of America. The health of our citizens depends on a positive resolution of this matter – which can only be accomplished by EPA accepting our Section 176A petition and implementing the requirements it proposes.

Sincerely,

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Cc: Connecticut Congressional Delegation
Commissioner Rob Klee, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection