



OCT 1 2004

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
NATIONAL VEHICLE AND FUEL EMISSIONS LABORATORY  
2565 PLYMOUTH ROAD  
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48105

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

Christopher Recchia  
Ozone Transport Commission  
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 638  
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Recchia:

Thank you for your letter of September 7, 2004, to Administrator Michael O. Leavitt offering support and assistance to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in development of regulations for small non-road spark-ignition engines. As you are aware, under the Fiscal Year 2004 Omnibus funding bill, EPA is required to propose regulations for nonroad spark-ignition engines less than 50 horsepower by December 1, 2004 and to finalize the regulations by December 31, 2005. Over the last few months, my staff have been meeting with numerous engine and equipment manufacturers, initiating technology development efforts, and performing emissions tests on in-use equipment in order to gather information necessary for developing our proposed regulations.

EPA's approach to developing new standards for these nonroad engines will be guided by Section 213(a) of the Clean Air Act. Under the Act, EPA is required to set the most stringent standards technologically feasible taking into consideration cost, safety, lead time, noise and energy. Although EPA has not made decisions on the details of the proposed program, it is likely to include a third phase of exhaust standards for nonhandheld engines (e.g., engines used to power lawnmowers, riding tractors, and generators) and a second phase of standards for gasoline recreational marine engines (e.g., engines used to power personal watercraft). The proposal also will likely include our first set of standards to control of tank and hose permeation emissions from both handheld and nonhandheld engines and recreational marine engines.

I appreciate your offer to provide assistance to EPA as we develop our proposal. We would be glad to meet with you and provide a more detailed briefing on the status of our work and also explore possible ways for your organization to help EPA as we proceed with our rulemaking. Please contact Glenn Passavant, of my staff, to arrange such a briefing. He can be reached by phone at (734) 214-4408 or by email at [passavant.glenn@epa.gov](mailto:passavant.glenn@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

Chester J. France, Director  
Assessment and Standards Division