

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
LaPORTE COUNTY, INDIANA
URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PREVENT
IMPLEMENTATION OF EPA'S REVISIONS TO THE OZONE
NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARD**

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (hereinafter referred to as "EPA") published its new regulations for tighter "clean-air" standards in the July 19, 1997 Federal Register triggering a sixty (60) day review and comment period by the U.S. Congress;

WHEREAS, in recent testimony before a U.S. Senate Committee, George Wolff, the atmospheric scientist in charge of the EPA's Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (hereinafter referred to as "CASAC"), stated that only 2 out of 21 committee members endorsed standards as stringent as the EPA is now adopting. The National Research Council has produced a report on the new clean air regulations concluding: "The accuracy implied by the regulations issued by (the Environmental Protection Agency). . . exceeds current modeling capabilities. The net differences in emission levels are typically smaller than the error terms of those models";

WHEREAS, proposed EPA ozone attainment levels in the West and Southwest are below background levels. Background ozone is that ozone which naturally exists in the environment;

WHEREAS, the EPA is using unreliable scientific data to override the authority of state and local representatives in such critical decisions as whether a highway should be widened, or local people forced to car pool or dry-cleaners closed down;

WHEREAS, many Congressional Members have signed on in large numbers to a letter from Rep. John Dingell (D. Mich.), to EPA Administrator Carol Browner which says the proposed regulations will "with the stroke of a pen," put four hundred (400) additional counties into "non-attainment" and that will mean "the vast majority of the nation's urban and suburban areas will face an indefinite future of growth restrictions and potential disruption of highway funds and other sanctions";

WHEREAS, tighter standards would put hundreds of counties out of compliance with the Clean Air Act. Administrator Browner acknowledges that California will probably have to abandon diesel fuel, while many Midwestern states dependent on coal powered electric plants would also be hit hard;

WHEREAS, an analysis by the George Mason University's Center for Study of Public Choice estimates the annual cost of compliance at \$54 to \$328 billion for the ozone rule and \$55 billion for the particulate matter rule.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that LaPorte County, Indiana protests the implementation of the purported EPA regulations which are not based upon reliable and adequate research using the scientific method endorsed by a majority of the scientific community. Therefore, the Board of Commissioners of LaPorte County, Indiana, state as follows:

SECTION 1: LaPorte County, Indiana calls on each member of its Congressional Delegation to oppose the implementation of EPA's new Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

SECTION 2: LaPorte County, Indiana urges county and local governments in areas impacted by EPA's new regulations to join LaPorte County in calling on Congress to enact legislation clarifying the intent of the Clean Air Act to prevent the implementation of more restrictive clean air standards.

PASSED by the Board of Commissioners of LaPorte County, Indiana this 26th day of August, 1997.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kenneth E. Layton
KENNETH LAYTON, Auditor
By: Judy A. Cunningham
Deputy Auditor

Clay Turner
CLAY TURNER, President

Richard J. Kruse
RICHARD J. KRUSE, Vice-President

Dated: 8/26/97

H.J. "Bud" Kintzele
H.J. "BUD" KINTZELE, Member