

Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Maine's Approach to Vehicle Pollution Standards Upheld

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(AUGUSTA)— In a report released today, the National Research Council (NRC) reaffirmed the importance of states having the ability to adopt California's stricter air pollution standards for automobiles and trucks.

"This is a real victory for air quality in the northeast," according to Maine Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner David Littell. "For years Maine has consistently adopted more stringent standards to protect public health and this report endorses our actions for cleaner air."

Maine is one of fifteen states and the District of Columbia that have the stricter California standards for either trucks or automobiles.

The NRC report, "State and Federal Standards for Mobile Source Emissions," found that California's methods for establishing vehicle pollution standards provides air quality benefits beyond federal standards.

The Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM), a regional association of air pollution control agencies, also commended the council's report. Maine is a member of NESCAUM along with Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont.

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