June 28, 2017

The Honorable Greg Walden
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Walden and Ranking Member Pallone:

On behalf of the members of the American Chemistry Council (ACC), we offer our strong support for H.R. 806, the “Ozone Standards Implementation Act of 2017.” By modernizing the implementation process for new EPA ozone standards, this bipartisan legislation will help ensure that manufacturers who want to invest and hire in the U.S. can obtain regulatory permits in a timely and efficient manner.

Our nation has made great strides to improve air quality. Emissions of ozone precursors have fallen by half since 1980, while ozone concentrations have fallen 33 percent. Progress will continue under this bill’s sensible way of implementing EPA’s 2015 ozone standards, as well as its other reforms.

H.R. 806 aligns the 2008 and 2015 ozone standards through a phased schedule that provides sufficient time to implement already-planned controls. This approach will enable air quality improvement without adding undue burdens on strained state agencies and economies. Provisions tying permitting requirements to this phased schedule will help ensure that manufacturers are not caught up in red tape.

We welcome the bill’s ten-year review cycles as more feasible than the current schedule. The change will bring greater certainty to regulators and businesses while supporting environmental improvement.

We urge the Energy and Commerce Committee to approve H.R. 806 and look forward to prompt consideration on the House Floor.

Sincerely,

Cal Dooley
President & CEO