



Statement

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ACC WELCOMES HOUSE LEGISLATION TO FIX IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS FOR EPA OZONE STANDARDS

WASHINGTON (March 17, 2016) – The American Chemistry Council (ACC) issued the following statement following the introduction of [legislation](#) by the House Energy and Commerce Committee to fix [longstanding problems](#) with the implementation of new air quality standards. On October 1, 2015, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [set](#) the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone at 70 parts per billion (ppb).

“We commend Chairman Upton, the Committee and other supporters of this important legislation. Manufacturers who want to build or expand in the United States must be able to obtain regulatory permits in a timely, transparent and efficient manner. But too often, EPA fails to provide necessary guidance and rules – delays that can last for years and put investment and jobs at risk. Today’s flawed process also burdens states with duplicative and wasteful implementation timelines. This bill is an opportunity for Congress to help ensure thoughtful, reasonable implementation of ozone standards.

“[The Ozone Standards Implementation Act of 2016 \(H.R. 4775\)](#) combines elements of several [previous bills](#). It appropriately delays implementation of the 2015 ozone standards, sets a ten-year interval for NAAQS reviews and requires EPA to issue guidance concurrent with new standards. It also leaves the 2008 permitting requirements in effect until nonattainment areas for the new standards are designated. These and other provisions will create a more certain regulatory environment for state air-quality agencies and businesses.

“We thank the Committee for their ongoing efforts to improve the implementation process for new air rules, and we applaud Reps. Bill [Flores](#), Pete Olson, Bob Latta, Steve Scalise and Henry Cuellar for helping to develop the legislation. We look forward to working with you to expedite passage.”

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The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people's lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care®, common sense advocacy designed to address major public policy issues, and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is an \$801 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is the nation's largest exporter, accounting for twelve percent of all U.S. exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always



been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation's critical infrastructure.

