

## **LETTER OF INTENT**

### **To Resume Scientific Cooperation to Reduce Transboundary Air Pollution and Improve Regional Air Quality**

**BETWEEN  
THE NORTHEAST STATES FOR COORDINATED AIR USE MANAGEMENT  
("NESCAUM")**

**AND**

**ONTARIO MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT ("Ontario")**

#### **PURPOSE:**

NESCAUM and Ontario have a history of scientific cooperation in support of reducing acid precipitation and improving regional air quality. NESCAUM and Ontario intend to continue to coordinate their scientific work in support of efforts to reduce and prevent transboundary air pollution, and to improve regional air quality, thereby protecting public health, the environment and the economy in the Northeast U.S. States and in Ontario.

Air quality issues of interest include, but are not limited to: photochemical smog, airborne toxics including mercury, acid deposition, emerging transboundary air quality concerns, and climate change. NESCAUM and Ontario have identified the need to resume and deepen their scientific cooperation in order that the Northeast U.S. States and Ontario can coordinate their respective regulatory, policy and legal actions.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

NESCAUM and Ontario have worked co-operatively for over 20 years on air quality issues, and have acted in concert in support of reducing acid precipitation.

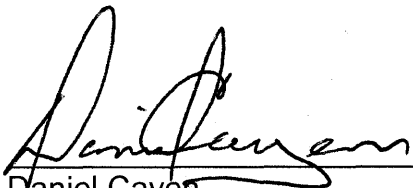
Recently NESCAUM and Ontario have identified areas where increased scientific cooperation including, but not limited to, emissions and atmospheric monitoring, emissions modeling, and research on potential emission control measures can lead to improved scientific understanding and improved coordination of actions between NESCAUM, its individual members, and Ontario.

NESCAUM and Ontario have identified complementary strengths that can be further developed between themselves and within individual NESCAUM members in support of improved scientific cooperation and coordinated actions.

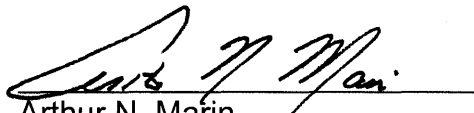
**UNDERSTANDINGS:**

NESCAUM and Ontario recognize the importance of continued co-operative efforts to increase their scientific cooperation to achieve air quality that protects human health and the ecosystem of both jurisdictions and will work together to:

- Share information regarding air quality surveillance and monitoring, emission source inventories, air quality standards, and pollution control programs;
- Identify and work co-operatively on joint studies regarding air issues of mutual interest;
- Exchange information on new air pollution control technologies, environmental monitoring equipment and analysis, and related areas of expertise;
- Identify new and emerging transboundary air quality problems and develop and exchange policies and procedures for mitigation or control of the pollutants of concern;
- Identify any relevant scientific, technical or advisory meetings or events and encourage the attendance by both parties as schedules and interests permit; these include, but are not limited to, meetings of the NESCAUM Board of Directors and Ontario's *Shared Air Summit*.



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Ontario  
Ministry of the Environment



Arthur N. Marin  
Executive Director  
NESCAUM

Aug 22/06  
Date

8-29-06  
Date