



Mr. Ira Leighton
Acting Regional Administrator
EPA Region 1, New England
Boston, MA

June 22, 2009

Dear Ira,

On behalf of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC), the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM) and the Northeast States Waste Management Officials Association (NEWMOA), thank you for meeting with us to discuss environmental issues of common concern. We are pleased with the leadership team that EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson is assembling, and we are especially thankful for the experience, dedication, and care that you and Stephen Perkins bring to our region as we await the appointment of a new regional administrator.

As you may be aware, NEIWPCC, NESCAUM and NEWMOA have held quarterly tri-interstate meetings for the past several years. It is our hope that the new regional administrator and deputy regional administrator will participate in at least one of these meetings each year. The meetings are an effective and efficient vehicle for working toward resolving common issues of concern, as well as for defining future priorities and developing a shared action-oriented agenda. These benefits are only enhanced by the regular annual participation of EPA Region 1, New England's leadership.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could communicate our thoughts on this matter to the new regional administrator, who may be unfamiliar with the longstanding tradition in our region of regular participation by EPA in meetings with the states' environmental commissioners and interstate organizations. While communication between EPA and these parties can and does occur in less structured ways, the commitment to periodic participation in meetings reinforces the collaborative spirit so essential to progress on issues of significant regional concern.

Thank you for your time and support, and for your recognition of the environmental accomplishments that we have achieved together and the agenda that we have collaboratively

forged. Your work on behalf of our region's environment and your dedication to information-sharing and collaboration is and will always be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Ron Poltak
NEIWPC



Bill Cass
NEWMOA



Arthur Marin
NESCAUM