



**CHATTANOOGA**  
AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CHATTANOOGA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
URGING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION AGENCY TO MAINTAIN THE CURRENT NATIONAL AMBIENT  
AIR QUALITY STANDARD (NAAQS) FOR GROUND LEVEL OZONE.**

WHEREAS, the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce strongly supports clean-air standards at a level that ensures public health and improves quality of life for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, state and local governments and private industry are making significant progress in improving air quality, with the national average ozone levels having decreased by 21 percent from 1980 to 2006; and aggregate emissions of six principal pollutants down more than half since 1980 despite a 46 percent increase in population; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chattanooga, Hamilton County, its citizens, and businesses implemented measures under an Early Action Compact, and worked tirelessly to successfully reach the United States Environmental Protection Agency's current National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ground level ozone before the statutory deadline of 2009; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, in the course of its required review of NAAQS, is nevertheless considering a further tightening of the ozone standard from 0.08 parts per million; and

WHEREAS, further tightening the ozone standard, even before the current standard is met, would push our region back out of compliance, significantly expand the number of non-attainment areas, and result in emissions controls in additional areas, thereby imposing significant administrative and regulatory burdens on more citizens, businesses and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the ramifications associated with a tightened standard may certainly include plant and business closures and loss of jobs both here and across the country, higher energy and other prices to consumers, and with additional costs estimated in the tens of billions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency is proposing this action without conclusive evidence that the change in standards will result in significant health benefits, and with no analysis of the enormous costs that will be charged to the Chattanooga area's businesses and consumers and to those communities that must implement new complicated compliance programs;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce strongly urges the United States Environmental Protection Agency to retain the existing NAAQS Standard for ozone; and identify any unfunded mandates or other administrative and economic burdens for state or local governments, agencies, and businesses that would derive from changes to the NAAQS for ozone; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce prepare and transmit properly inscribed copies of this resolution to the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Governor of Tennessee, and the Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation.

ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_