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## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

## SEP 0 5 2003

OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

Mr. Gustavo Alanís-Ortega Joint Public Advisory Committee Chair for 2003

Dear Mr. Alanís-Ortega:

On behalf of the North American Air Working Group (NAAWG), I would like to thank the JPAC for providing comments regarding strategic directions for the CEC's air-related work These comments are particularly timely given that the NAAWG is still in the early stages of identifying these strategic directions. We will take them under consideration as the process moves forward.

As you know, NAAWG expressed interest in working with the JPAC to engage the public in discussions about work under the CEC. To this end, the NAAWG would like to invit the JPAC to co-host a joint meeting in early 2004 to solicit public comment on a draft strategic directions document regarding the CEC air quality and other air-related work. In addition, the NAAWG would welcome JPAC's views on additional mechanisms for regularly engaging a broad range of stakeholders in future discussions regarding CEC air work.

At the June meeting, the NAAWG Chair officially rotated to Undersecretary Raúl Arriaga in Mexico. Follow-up on behalf of the NAAWG will be forthcoming from Undersecretary Arriaga as we progress with planning and seek further input from the JPAC.

Once again, we appreciate your comments and look forward to continuing our collaboration with the JPAC throughout this planning process and in the future.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Holmstead Assistant Administrator

cc: CEC Alternate Representatives

**CEC Acting Executive Director** 

NAAWG Members, Alternates, and Staff

CEC Air Program Manager JPAC Liaison Officer