



SECRETARIA DE MEDIO AMBIENTE
Y RECURSOS NATURALES

SUBSECRETARÍA DE GESTIÓN PARA LA
PROTECCIÓN AMBIENTAL

OFICIO: SGPA/099 /04

Mexico City, D.F. 19 May 2004

Donna Tingley
Joint Public Advisory Committee Chair for 2004
Commission for Environmental Cooperation

RE: JPAC Comments on the Draft North American Air Working Group Long-term Strategic Framework for Air-related Activities of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation

Dear Ms. Tingley:

First, on behalf of the North American Air Working Group (NAAWG), let me thank you for coordinating the Joint Public Advisory Committee's (JPAC) effort to provide input on the draft Strategic Framework for Air-Related Activities of the CEC. The NAAWG recognizes the tremendous effort to compile and synthesize the comments of the individual members of the JPAC and appreciates the time that the JPAC members took to share their views with the NAAWG during the joint session in Oaxaca, Mexico, on March 10, 2004. We are convinced that involving the JPAC at the early stages of this endeavor, as well as in subsequent NAAWG-related projects will be key to the overall success of the CEC's air-related activities. We also are convinced of the value of regularly engaging a broad range of stakeholders in discussions regarding future CEC air-related activities and recognize public comments as an important part of the process of developing CEC programs.

We have reviewed the JPAC's comments, as well as comments received from the general public, and we currently are considering how best to address them. Despite the diversity of the comments, we have organized them into four categories for consideration either within the Strategic Framework, as part of an appendix to the document, or in some other context. These four categories are:

- Mechanisms for public involvement
- Mechanisms for information sharing and comparability
- Assessment of public health impacts
- Management options and programs for addressing pollution sources

Finally, we would like to express our intent to present the draft Strategic Framework along with a summary of the public comments received at the June 21-23 CEC Council Session in Puebla, Mexico.

Once again, we appreciate JPAC's participation in the joint session and the subsequent written summary of comments. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with the JPAC, especially as we strive to develop additional means for public consultation on the air-related activities of the CEC.

Sincerely,

FRANCISCO GINER DE LOS RIOS
CHAIR CEC NORTH AMERICAN AIR WORKING GROUP 2003-2004

c.c: NAAWG members
CEC Alternate Representatives
CEC Executive Director
CEC Head of Pollutants and Health
CEC Air Program Manager
JPAC members
NAC/GAC members
JPAC members
NACs/GAC members