



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OCT 03 2002

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Considerations for State I/M Program Optimization

FROM: Margo Tsirigotis Oge, Director
Office of Transportation and Air Quality

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Margo T. Oge".

TO: EPA Regional Air Division Directors

Please find attached a document entitled "Considerations for State I/M Program Optimization." This document was developed by the Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ) in response to and in collaboration with our regional partners to act as a tool to be used by those states that may be considering optimizing their existing vehicle inspection and maintenance (I/M) programs. This document is purposefully neutral in tone; it does not make recommendations concerning whether or not states should consider optimizing or otherwise revising their I/M programs. This memo also does not address operational and administrative issues affecting the effectiveness of program operation because such issues frequently vary widely from program to program, and often require a site visit to address in any meaningful way. Rather, the considerations are presented in the form of questions that should be addressed by states (using local data, priorities, et cetera) to ensure that the optimization process is as comprehensive and productive as possible. Where OTAQ is aware of information that may play a role in answering these questions above and beyond local considerations, that information has been provided.

Please distribute this guidance to the I/M contacts in those states within your region that may be considering optimizing their existing and/or future I/M program(s). For additional information, please call Lee Cook of my staff at (734) 214-4820.