



REGIONAL AIR POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

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April 21, 2006

Honorable Bob Taft
Governor of Ohio
77 South High Street – 30th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Subject: Veto Request—Senate Bill 265

Dear Governor Taft:

I respectfully urge you to veto Am. Sub. Senate Bill 265, recently passed by the Ohio Senate and House.

This bill contains numerous relaxations to Ohio law regarding control of air pollution from new sources and is especially egregious with regard to exemptions for sources which emit less than ten tons per year of criteria pollutants.

Ohio has 33 of its 88 counties designated as nonattainment for ozone and/or fine particulate matter. Ohio EPA has yet to identify control measures sufficient to provide healthy air for the citizens of these counties. Exemption from controls for new sources of emissions will add to an already extremely difficult burden. Every excess ton of air pollution emitted by new sources will have to be offset by existing sources in order for progress to be made toward clean air.

I have worked as an employee of the Regional Air Pollution Control Agency of Dayton for 32 years and served as the agency director for the past 20 years. I also serve as the legislative liaison for the Ohio Local Air Pollution Control Officers Association and as the president of the national Association of Local Air Pollution Control Officials. My experience at the federal, state, and local level has taught me the principle that the best time to control a source of air pollution is at the time of its installation. This bill eviscerates that principle and rescinds a requirement which has served Ohio for 33 years. There is no need for such a drastic rescission of state law at a time when control of air pollution from new sources is essential.

With Earth Day this weekend, I ask that you not set Ohio law back to the time of the first Earth Day in 1970. Please veto Am. Sub. Senate Bill 265.

Sincerely,

John Paul
Supervisor