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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

CHAIRMAN, INSURANCE COMMITTEE

PHEAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TO: MEMBERS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE

FROM: REPRESENTATIVE NICK COLAFELLA *nc*

DATE: OCTOBER 26, 1994

SUBJECT: REFORMULATED GAS MANDATE LEGISLATION

I will be introducing legislation that will exclude the 28 counties added by the Governor from the reformulated gas mandate.

As you know, the Federal Clean Air Act requires that the five-county Philadelphia region use this gas. However, the counties that were not part of this program in the federal law should not be included now.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact my office at 7-5475 or through PROFS H015NAC.

THOMAS J. SCRIMENTI
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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
AGING AND YOUTH
INSURANCE
FEDERAL-STATE RELATIONS

October 17, 1994

Secretary Arthur Davis
Department of Environmental Resources
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Secretary Davis,

According to EPA regulations a county is in "attainment" status if the county has not exceeded ozone levels of 120 parts per billion three times in the past three years. In 1990, your department categorized Erie County as a "marginal non-attainment" region because of high ozone readings in 1988. However, since 1988, Erie County has not had one statistical day of exceeding the 120 part per billion standard. Therefore, as of 1992, Erie County was eligible to be placed on the "attainment" list. Today we formally request that DER place Erie County on the "attainment" list and take whatever steps are necessary with the Environmental Protection Agency to accomplish this task.

As you know, as of December 1994 Erie County will be required to use reformulated gasoline. It is our belief that if our county is in "attainment" status, then reformulated gasoline would not be required. Over thirty counties in Pennsylvania are not required to have reformulated gasoline and we believe all of these counties on the "attainment" list.

We have learned that your department believes that a maintenance plan to continue air quality levels is necessary for counties that are even on the "attainment" list. We believe this is a federal requirement. Further, representatives of your department have told us that reformulated gasoline may be part of this maintenance requirement. If this is true, Erie's attainment status and the necessity of reformulated gas may be a "catch-22" situation.

However, we would like to learn whether reformulated gasoline is the only way to achieve a suitable maintenance plan for Erie County. Are there other alternatives and who decides which of these are acceptable? Can the Pennsylvania legislature and Governor change the requirements for the maintenance plan?

We would appreciate your prompt decision on this request and the additional information that we have requested. Finally, we would appreciate the opportunity to meet with the senior officials in your office to further discuss this matter.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Thomas J. Scrimenti in cursive.

Tom Scrimenti
Representative, 4th Dist.

Handwritten signature of Italo S. Cappabianca in cursive.

Italo S. Cappabianca
Representative, 2nd Dist.

Handwritten signature of Linda Bebeko-Jones in cursive.

Linda Bebeko-Jones
Representative, 1st Dist.