

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 7, 2011

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1201 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

We are writing to strongly urge you to honor a request from multiple towns and cities in Wisconsin to meet with your staff to discuss the proposed National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Major Sources: Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Boilers and Process Heaters, otherwise known as the Boiler MACT rule.

It is our understanding that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources contacted Dr. Susan Hedman, the EPA Administrator for Region V, on May 9, 2011 supporting a meeting between your staff and representatives of Wisconsin's towns and cities. Knowing that these local units of government have contacted you repeatedly to request a meeting, we write to express our strong support for this meeting as well.

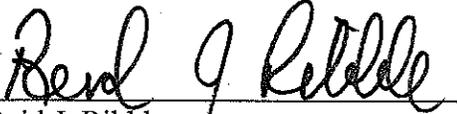
Towns and municipalities already suffer from declining tax bases due to the struggling economy, and so often small towns and their governments are dependent on one industry for local jobs and tax revenues – in this case, northern Wisconsin relies heavily on the forest products industry. If the Boiler MACT rule is enacted in its current form, it could be devastating to small communities and institutions in Wisconsin.

More broadly, Wisconsin's manufacturing industry employs more than 430,000 individuals and roughly 18 percent of the state's overall economy. Recent estimates have concluded that this rule could cost Wisconsin businesses, schools, public health and government institutions hundreds of millions of dollars in compliance costs and jeopardize more than ten thousand jobs. Moreover, the number of jobs in Wisconsin's forest products industry has already declined from 103,000 in 2006 to 55,000 jobs this year.

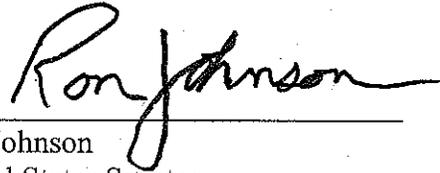
As such, we believe it is extremely important that local units of government affected by this rule have a voice in its creation, and adoption of any revisions the rule may be presently undergoing. Further, the EPA can only benefit from meeting with affected governments to gain a greater understanding of the rule's overall effects on job creation and local economies as well as implementation and compliance costs for affected companies.

President Obama, through Executive Order 13565, has asked all federal departments and agencies coordinate the review of existing and pending regulations to determine their effectiveness. We believe that an open and transparent rule-making process is a positive step in the direction of allowing the American people to voice their opinions on government actions. We would be happy to assist in coordination of a meeting between your agency's staff who are drafting the revisions and representatives of Wisconsin towns who have notified the agency of their intent to coordinate drafting of the rule. Please let us know if we can help your office in any way.

Sincerely,



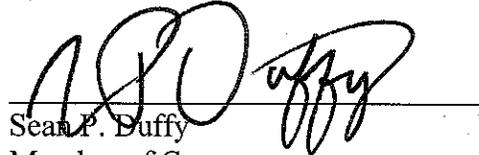
Reid J. Ribble
Member of Congress



Ron Johnson
United States Senator



Paul Ryan
Member of Congress



Sean P. Duffy
Member of Congress