

Downtown Carlisle Association

March 10, 2008

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Diesel Idle Regulation
Environmental Quality Board
PO Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105

MAR 13 2008

Dear Environmental Quality Board:

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Downtown Carlisle Association, I write in support of the proposed regulations to limit idling to five minutes per hour for most commercial diesel vehicles.

The Downtown Carlisle Association is part of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's National Main Street Program. Our Mission is: To promote and foster awareness of the historical, economic, social and cultural qualities of the Downtown Carlisle area; improve the quality of life of Downtown residents, businesses, patrons and visitors; prevent community deterioration; and assist in quality business development and recruitment in the Downtown Carlisle area.

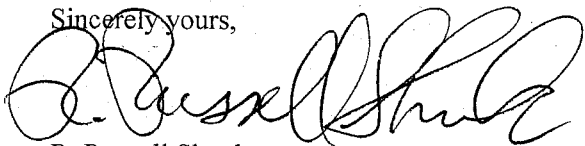
We are very concerned about the air quality in our downtown and surrounding areas. All the efforts that we, and numerous other community groups, have done in revitalizing this historic downtown are at risk if we cannot make headway in improving something as basic as the quality of the air we breathe.

We recognize that Carlisle is at the crossroads of major highways that aid in the transportation of goods and services all along the Eastern seaboard. The local trucking and logistics firms provide jobs for our residents and deliveries to our businesses. Some have been leaders in the anti-idling movement. Still, the very volume of traffic we see in our area, including trucks stopping for rest periods, contribute to the damage that is done from the infusion of particulate matter in our air.

For such an historic area with bountiful natural attractions and resources to be listed among the nation's worst air quality regions is not the current reality we desire nor the legacy we want to leave the next generations. To date, 14 other states and the District of Columbia have all adopted limits on idling, making Pennsylvania the only state in the northeast without such limits. It is time that Pennsylvania took a stand for the health of its citizens and followed our neighbors' example.

We urge you to approve the proposed idling limitations for the health and well being of Pennsylvania's citizens, visitors and our future, symbolized by the children who are particularly vulnerable to breathing disorders caused by 2.5 particulate matter and other harmful chemicals found in diesel exhaust.

Sincerely yours,



R. Russell Shunk
President of the Board
Downtown Carlisle Association

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

