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STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
& ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

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April 21, 1981

Director, Standards and Regulations Division  
ONAC Docket 81-02, ANR-190  
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20460

Gentlemen:

Through the Noise Control Act of 1972, Congress established a National Policy "to promote an environment for all Americans free from noise that jeopardizes their health and welfare". Congress further stated in the Act "that, while primary responsibility for control of noise rests with State and local governments, Federal action is essential to deal with noise sources in commerce, control of which requires national uniformity of treatment".

The State of Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control continues to agree with the above need for Federal action in obtaining national uniformity of action for dealing with noise sources in commerce.

The 1980 Delaware Environmental Noise Program Municipal Noise Survey resulted in heavy trucks as the major source of noise with motorcycles second. In addition, one of the first noise complaints received upon initiation of the 1980 Delaware Noise Program involved Trash Compactor Noise into a residential area behind a super-market.

The State of Delaware is a "thoroughfare" for medium and heavy trucks in interstate trucking from Maine to Florida. While we will be enforcing noise regulations to control inter and intra state truck noise worst offenders, we recognize the advantage of Federal noise standards for new vehicles in lowering the thoroughfare ambient noise level.

We urge you not to further defer the 40 CFR Part 205, Noise Emission Standards for Medium and Heavy Duty Trucks and Truck Mounted Compactors. We also urge you to strengthen noise standards for these vehicles in accordance with future Best Practical Noise Control Measures.

Sincerely,

John E. Wilson III  
Secretary

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