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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OMA Welcomes Cleveland Area's Return to Ozone Attainment

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Ohio Manufacturers' Association (OMA) today welcomed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) decision to redesignate the Cleveland area as being in attainment with federal ozone standards, calling it a clear win for clean air, regulatory certainty and northeast Ohio's manufacturing economy.

EPA announced today that the Cleveland area now meets the 2015 national ozone standard, citing years of air monitoring data and a more than 40% reduction in certain pollutants over eight years. EPA credited work by EPA, Ohio EPA, local governments and industry to reduce pollutants that form ozone. The redesignation covers Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage and Summit counties.

"This is exactly what good policy should recognize. Real environmental progress, cleaner air and a stronger economy can happen at the same time," said James Lee, OMA managing director of public policy services. "Ohio manufacturers have done excellent work investing in cleaner, more efficient operations, and this decision reflects that progress. When a region meets the standard, government should recognize the facts and give communities the certainty they have earned."

The redesignation is expected to support faster and more predictable air permitting in the Cleveland area, while existing pollution controls and monitoring remain in place to ensure continued compliance. EPA said federal law also requires a maintenance plan to keep the area in attainment for at least 10 years.

OMA said the decision should serve as a reminder that environmental regulation must be grounded in current data, not outdated assumptions. Ohio manufacturers will continue to support clean air and responsible stewardship, but communities that meet federal standards should receive the regulatory certainty and economic opportunity that come with attainment.

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The Ohio Manufacturers' Association is Ohio's largest statewide business association composed solely of manufacturers. Established in 1910, the OMA's mission is to protect and grow Ohio manufacturing. It represents manufacturers of all sizes in every subsector of the industry. Manufacturing is Ohio's largest economic sector, employing approximately 690,000 Ohioans and contributing more than \$138 billion annually to the economy. Visit ohiomfg.com, or follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

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