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**CLEAN AIR TASK FORCE CALLS EPA'S DRAFT RULE ON  
REPLACEMENT OF CLEAN AIR INTERSTATE RULE "A GOOD START;"  
VOWS CONTINUED PRESSURE TO TIGHTEN POLLUTION STANDARDS**

BOSTON, July 6, 2010 -- Clean Air Task Force today called the Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to require substantial reductions in air pollution from power plants in 31 eastern states and the District of Columbia "a good start" to cutting pollution traveling across state boundaries that contributes to a myriad of public health problems, including premature death, as well as ozone smog, acid rain and other environmental problems. However, CATF Senior Counsel David Marshall cautioned that CATF will be pressing EPA for even tighter standards for nitrogen oxides (NOx) and sulfur dioxide (SOx) emissions in the months leading up to a final rule to replace the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) that was struck down by a Federal Appeals Court in 2008.

"A generation after passage of the landmark Clean Air Act, there is no reason that power plant pollution should not be tightly controlled," said Marshall. "The control technology is widely available and very effective, and the environmental and public health benefits of controls that go beyond what EPA proposes today vastly outweigh the relatively moderate costs."

Supported by prior research conducted by CATF, Marshall said that EPA should gradually reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide to a level equivalent to a nationwide power plant cap no greater than 3.5 million tons by 2012, 2.0 million tons by 2015, and 1.5 million tons by 2018. Emissions of nitrogen oxides should be reduced to the equivalent of a nationwide power plant cap of 1.9 million tons by 2012 and 1.25 million tons by 2015.

"While today's proposal by EPA does not meet these targets, CATF believes that EPA has made a good start," said Marshall. "While we are encouraged by EPA's stated intention to require—through future rulemaking efforts—additional reductions over the next few years, we will be urging the Agency in public hearings and written comments to strengthen its final version of this rule in order to deliver additional health and environmental benefits as soon as possible."

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**Clean Air Task Force** is a nonprofit organization founded in 1996 dedicated to reducing atmospheric pollution through research, advocacy and private sector collaboration. For more information, please visit us at [www.catf.us](http://www.catf.us)