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July 27, 2016

The Honorable Gina McCarthy Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20460

Re:

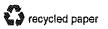
Docket EPA-HQ-OEM-2015-0725-0001; Accidental Release Prevention Requirements: Risk Management Programs Under the Clean Air Act, Section 112(r)(7); Proposed Rule (RIN 2050-AG82)

Dear Administrator McCarthy,

As the chief legal officers of our states, we write to you to express our objection to your proposed revisions to the above-referenced Accidental Release Prevention Requirements, and to express our support for the comments filed on May 3, 2016, by Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry and Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton (attached hereto for ease of reference). The concerns raised by Attorneys General Landry and Paxton must be meaningfully addressed prior to finalization of this rule.

The rule potentially covers up to 12,500 facilities in the agriculture, food processing, chemical manufacturing, oil and gas, and water treatment sectors. The safety of these manufacturing, processing and storage facilities should be a priority for us all, but safety encompasses more than preventing accidental releases of chemicals, it also encompasses preventing *intentional* releases caused by bad actors seeking to harm our citizens. Your proposed rule seeks to make readily-available to the public information that you believe might be useful to the public in the event of an accidental release of chemicals. As the federal agencies responsible for national security have warned you, compiling that information and making it easily accessible also aids those who might seek to cause an intentional release for nefarious purposes, by providing those bad actors with information that would help them both select a target and exploit any security vulnerabilities their target might have.

With terrorist attacks becoming an unfortunately common occurrence, security concerns of this sort should be taken seriously, yet it appears your agency has largely dismissed them. We strongly urge POSTMARKED



you to rethink this course. A rule of this sort should prioritize national security and demonstrate an awareness that there are those in this world who seek to do us harm, and who might attempt to use our nation's chemical facilities as a means to do so. The proposed rule fails on this front, and should be withdrawn.

Sincerely,

Scott Pruitt

Oklahoma Attorney General

Luther Strange

Luther Strange Alabama Attorney General

Mark Brnovich Arizona Attorney General

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Sam Olens Georgia Attorney General Derk Schmidt Derek Schmidt Kansas Attorney General

Adam Paul Laxalt Nevada Attorney General

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