

ROBERT E. LATTA  
5TH DISTRICT, OHIO

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TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

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OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3505**

February 17, 2011

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The Honorable Lisa Jackson  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I am writing to express my concern about the EPA's recently published rules that define a new standard for exhaust emissions from stationary compression ignition Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines (RICE). These National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) will have a devastating economic effect on the state of Ohio, and more specifically, my Congressional District, the Fifth District of Ohio.

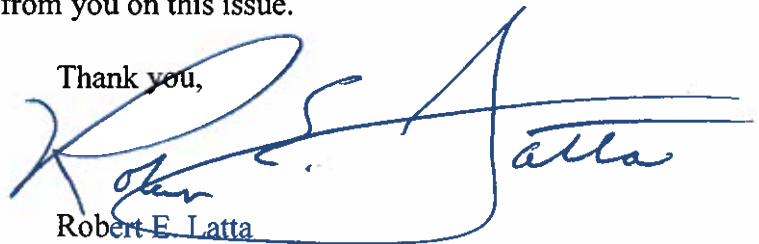
These rules make no exception for load management programs that only use RICE during periods of peak demand to avoid purchasing energy at excessive prices when consumers need it most. In Northwest Ohio, a large share of the electricity is provided by rural co-operatives, and these load management programs are the only way to provide all of the consumers with affordable electricity. Midwestern Electric, Inc. alone saves their customers \$700,000 annually by using stationary diesel engines during periods of peak demand.

In addition to the harsh economic effects, the RICE NESHAP will have negative effects on the environment. The high costs associated with making the engines compliant will eliminate the economic viability of a large number of them. As a result, communities would be forced to rely on coal and natural gas during peak periods, negating any alleged environmental effects of the rule.

To prevent extreme economic hardship and further job loss, common sense demands that the EPA reconsider the final RICE NESHAP rules. At the very least, expanding the emergency generator exemption to include use for load management purposes for RICE that operate for less than 100 hours per year would lift a large financial burden from my constituents.

I look forward to hearing a response from you on this issue.

Thank you,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Latta".

Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress