February 10, 2010

Kathleen Frangione
Office of Senator John Kerry
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Kathleen:

Enclosed, please find the analysis that Senator Kerry requested of reductions that the U.S. transportation sector could achieve in greenhouse-gas emissions and oil consumption.

EPA generated the estimates by calculating the reductions that would result from engine-, vehicle-, and travel-efficiency improvements that EPA believes would flow from substantially increased deployment of existing technologies and practices.

That deployment, in turn, would result from a combination of two things: (1) the implementation of existing statutory authorities and use existing funding; and (2) the enactment and implementation of new statutory authorities and the provision and use of new funding.

In this analysis, EPA has not attempted to delineate the adjustments that could be achieved with existing authorities and existing funding from those that could be achieved only with new authorities or new funding. The analysis should not be read as an implicit request of Congress for any new statutory authority or any new funding. Rather, it is intended only to fulfill Senator Kerry’s request for an estimate of the reductions that would result from pervasive deployment, throughout the U.S. transportation sector, of efficiency technologies and efficiency practices that exist today.

That pervasive deployment would, according to EPA’s analysis, cause the U.S. transportation sector’s year-2030 greenhouse-gas emissions to be 600-1,000 million metric tons less than under business as usual, and daily oil use in 2030 to be 4-7 million barrels less than under business as usual. Cumulative reductions between 2012 and 2030 could reach 8-12 billion metric tons of greenhouse-gas and 21-31 billion barrels of oil.

I hope that you find the attached analysis useful.

Regards,

David McIntosh
Associate Administrator