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Small Business Stationary Source Technical and Environmental Compliance Assistance Council

Rick Carleski, Manager, Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance

Sunset Review Committee Testimony

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Chairman Brown, Vice Chairman Jordan and members of the Ohio Sunset Review Committee. I am Rick Carleski, Manager of the Compliance Assistance Section within Ohio EPA's Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance. I am here today to encourage the continuation of the Small Business Stationary Source Technical and Environmental Compliance Assistance Council (CAP).

As mandated by section 507 of the Federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, each state is required to have a CAP and an environmental compliance assistance program. Ohio's CAP which is facilitated through the Ohio EPA consists of seven members; four appointed by members of the General Assembly, two by the governor, and one appointed by the Director of the Ohio EPA. CAP members appointed by the general assembly represent small businesses while members appointed by the governor represent the general public. The CAP member appointed by the Director of the Ohio EPA is an internal staffer that serves as a representative of the agency.

The purpose of the CAP is to advise Ohio EPA on how to best deliver its compliance assistance services to Ohio's business community. Since 1994, the CAP has provided a valuable and unique source of input concerning the impact of environmental regulations on small businesses and how to effectively communicate complex regulatory requirements to them. The CAP reviews and ensures information such as fact sheets and guidance documents prepared by Ohio EPA are understandable to the small business person that has little to no experience with environmental regulations. The CAP also recommends strategies to efficiently deliver environmental workshops, webinars, and conferences to Ohio's business community. The CAP has also discussed commenting on proposed Ohio EPA

regulations, promoting Ohio EPA's business assistance success stories and reviewing Ohio EPA's Strategic Plan for business assistance services.

Today, I encourage you to retain the CAP so that it can continue to guide the Ohio EPA in delivering the most useful and efficient environmental compliance assistance services to Ohio's small business community. Thank you for this opportunity and I am happy to answer any questions.