

Dear Mr. Yeow,

Moms Clean Air Force strongly supports the [Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee's recommendation](#) that the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone be strengthened to 50-60 ppb for the primary standard.

As the policy assessment indicates, ozone exposure is particularly dangerous for children with asthma:

“The potential for O3 exposure to elicit health outcomes more serious than those assessed in the experimental studies, particularly for children with asthma, continues to be indicated by the epidemiologic evidence of associations of O3 concentrations in ambient air with increased incidence of hospital admissions and emergency department visits for an array of health outcomes, including asthma exacerbation, COPD exacerbation, respiratory infection, and combinations of respiratory diseases. The strongest such evidence is for asthma-related outcomes and specifically asthma-related outcomes among children, indicating an increased risk for people with asthma and particularly children with asthma.” (pg. 119)

According to the [Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America \(AAFA\)](#), nearly 5 million children under the age of 18 in the US have asthma—it is a leading chronic disease in children. And even though asthma is a controllable disease, an estimated 50% of children with asthma have uncontrolled disease: this means that around the country, children in areas where the air quality is poor are struggling to breathe. Last year, the [American Lung Association](#) found that 3 out of every 8 Americans (including nearly 28 million children) lived in counties with failing grades for ozone smog.

We know that the impact of ozone-polluted air isn't distributed evenly, with communities of color far more likely to live in areas with failing air quality grades. Children of color bear a unique and heartbreaking burden: non-Hispanic Black children are [more than two times as likely to have asthma](#) as their non-Hispanic white counterparts, and [nearly 8 times more likely to die](#) from asthma.

Many of our more than 1.5 million Moms Clean Air Force members are parents of children with asthma, and we want the strongest possible ozone standards to protect our children's health. Once again, we support the CASAC's findings that the ozone NAAQS be strengthened to 50-60 ppb for the primary standard.

Thank you for considering our comment.

Elizabeth Bechard on behalf of Moms Clean Air Force

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