

RUBEN GALLEGO
3RD DISTRICT, ARIZONA

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August 21, 2024

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Regan:

Thank you for your ongoing work to protect our nation's air and waters. I request that the EPA use administrative flexibility to work with the City of Yuma, Arizona to ensure that PM10 particulate matter standards are effectively targeting air pollution at the source.

We share a common goal of protecting the health of Arizonans and our state's rich environment, including pushing back against efforts to undermine bedrock environmental protections such as the Clean Air Act and Waters of the United States. However, efforts to address air pollution in Arizona must focus on practical solutions that account for the sources of pollution, including sources outside of impacted communities.

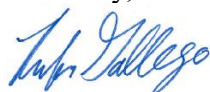
I recently heard from leadership from the City of Yuma, Arizona that they have serious concerns about their ability to comply with PM10 standards due to factors outside of their control. These include wind-blown dust from open lands and Mexico, construction sites, and industrial sources. As a city near the border, they face unique cross-border pollution challenges.

The bottom line is that PM10 enforcement measures may not effectively target a large part of the emissions in Yuma, since they are not produced by the city itself. However, extreme federal responses to noncompliance could threaten the city's potential for business and economic development- which would be a detriment to the entire Yuma region- and an agricultural sector that provides much of the produce consumed in the United States throughout the winter months.

To that end, I request that you work with Arizona localities to identify solutions that effectively work to protect the area's air quality. We all share the same goal of improving the area's air quality, and working together would move us in the right direction.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Arizona's local leaders and I stand ready to work with you on this issue.

Sincerely,



Ruben Gallego
MEMBER OF CONGRESS