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April 6, 2015

Kevin P. Conway, Ph.D.
Deputy Director, Division of Epidemiology, Services and Prevention Research
National Institute on Drug Abuse
Attn: PATH Project Officer

RE: FR Doc. 2015-02832 – Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) Study Third Wave of Data Collection (OMB 0925-0664)

Dear Dr. Conway:

The Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids supports the request from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) for the third wave of data collection for the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) study.

With the passage in 2009 of the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (FSPTCA), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) finally has the authority to regulate the product that is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States and around the world. The PATH study is critical to successful implementation of many provisions of the FSPTCA.

The PATH study will provide information on a broad range of critical tobacco control issues, including how a variety of tobacco products are being used and by whom, different approaches to smoking cessation, purchase behavior (how and where products are purchased and whether price promotions were available) and exposure to and appeal of tobacco marketing to both youth and adult smokers and non-smokers, etc. The longitudinal nature of these data will provide a critical foundation to inform FDA's regulatory decisions and actions and enhance FDA's ability to protect public health.

We support the request for the PATH study to conduct the third wave of data collection, and look forward to working with NIDA and FDA on ways to use these data to inform important regulatory decisions and actions.

Sincerely,

Meg Riordan

Meg Kindan

Vice President, Research

Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service National Institutes of Health

DIVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGY, SERVICES, AND PREVENTION RESEARCH

National Institute on Drug Abuse 6001 Executive Boulevard Room 5160, MSC 9589 Bethesda, Maryland 20892-9589 (301) 443-6504

April 8, 2015

Meg Riordan Vice President, Research Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids 1400 Eye Street, N.W., Suite 1200 Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Riordan:

Thank you for submitting comments on behalf of the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids in support of the third wave of data collection by the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) Study (FR Doc. 2015-02832).

As you point out, the PATH Study will provide information on a broad range of tobacco-related issues, including how a variety of tobacco products are being used and by whom, purchasing behavior, different approaches to smoking cessation, and exposure to and appeal of tobacco marketing to youth, adult smokers, and non-smokers. The longitudinal nature of the PATH Study's data will enhance the evidence base that informs the regulatory decisions of FDA to protect the Nation's public health, as authorized by the 2009 Family Smoking and Prevention Tobacco Control Act.

We appreciate your letter of support of the request by the National Institute on Drug Abuse for the third wave of data collection by the PATH Study.

Sincerely,

Kevin P. Conway, Ph.D., PATH Study Project Officer

Deputy Director

Division of Epidemiology and Prevention Services

Elizabeth y. Lambert, att. P.O.