

April 8, 2008

Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2007-0925
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460
C/O Ms. Kyndall Barry
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202-343-9868

Reference: Carbon Monoxide (CO) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)

Subject: Draft Integrated Review Plan Public Comments & Requests

Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee:

I am writing to submit my public comments and requests on the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) proposed Carbon Monoxide (CO) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Draft Integrated Review Plan.

I am a student intern with the Coalition For A Safe Environment which is a community based non-profit organization involved in fighting air pollution impacts on the environment and public health. I will be graduating this May 31, 2008 with my Masters in Urban Public Health from the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science which is located in the City of Los Angeles.

In the past ten months I have participated in two community organization based Public Health Surveys conducted by the Coalition For A Safe Environment in the Los Angeles community of Wilmington where I live and in the City of Carson which borders Wilmington to the north. I helped pass out flyers, went door-to-door interviewing residents about their health and did data entry.

I was astonished to find so many residents and their families suffering from so many health problems primarily caused and/or aggravated by air pollution from oil refineries and ports. It was shocking to discover that less than 10% of those surveyed had good health with relatively no significant health problems. Over 50% of all families surveyed had one or more family members suffering from a health problem such as difficulty breathing, asthma, bronchitis, sinusitis, emphysema, anemia, lung cancer, leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma and cardiovascular diseases caused by exposure to ambient toxic air pollution.

I have discovered that our current air quality standards are not adequate to protect public health and that public health problems from exposure to air pollution are in fact getting worse. In Wilmington where I live, the Port of Long Beach and the Port of Los Angeles are less than two miles away. I live about one mile to the Valero Oil Refinery and the Tesoro/Shell Oil Refinery and less than three miles from the

ConocoPhillips Oil Refinery and BP/Arco Oil Refineries. I live one block from an oil well drilling operation and flare site. I live one block from the BNSF Railroad track and five blocks from the BNSF Watson Rail Yard and five small blocks from the Port of Los Angeles and Port of Long Beach Alameda Train Transportation Corridor.

I would like to request the following:

1. That CASAC recommend the most stringent carbon monoxide standard to assure that public health is protected, that will reduce the current public health and welfare impacts and there is no increase in CO and other toxic air emissions.
2. That CASAC acknowledge that the current CO NAAQS has failed to stop the increase in public health problems and prepare appropriate time and health problem charts, graphs and data tables.
3. That CASAC identify communities and cities that are Environmental Justice Toxic Hot Spots which justify stricter standards.
4. That CASAC include in its research and assessment Public Health Survey Data in order to have an accurate accounting of all public health impacts.
5. That CASAC establish a Public Health Baseline to show the actual numbers of people impacted and their health affliction.
6. That CASAC provide for a minimum public review and comment period of 90 days after each assessment and the final recommendation report.
7. That CASAC distribute all assessments and reports to the public via all governmental regulatory agencies and all available news media outlets.

Please respond to me in writing of your actions regarding my public comment requests and place me on your mailing list.

Sincerely

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