



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

APR 8 2010

THE ADMINISTRATOR

EPA-CASAC-10-005

Dr. Joseph D. Brain, Chairman, Carbon Monoxide Review Panel  
Dr. Jonathan M. Samet, Chairman, Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee  
Science Advisory Board  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Subject: Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee's Peer Review of the U.S.  
Environmental Protection Agency's Integrated Science Assessment for Carbon  
Monoxide (Second External Review Draft, September 2009)

Dear Drs. Brain and Samet:

Thank you very much for your letter presenting the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee Carbon Monoxide Review Panel's comments following the November 16 and 17, 2009, meeting to review the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's *Integrated Science Assessment for Carbon Monoxide – Second External Review Draft*. EPA greatly appreciates the CASAC Panel's thorough review and constructive comments.

My staff carefully considered the major comments and recommendations in your letter, as well as the extensive individual comments from the CASAC Panel members. More specifically, in consideration of CASAC's advice on consistent use of terminology to describe susceptibility, EPA staff revised the CO ISA to define susceptible populations as those having a greater likelihood of experiencing health effects related to CO exposure, a definition consistent with the definition in the recently released ISA for particulate matter. Thus, the consideration of factors contributing to susceptibility is consistent across ISAs.

In response to CASAC's comments on the CO monitoring network, the ISA now provides additional information on the detection limits of monitors in the regulatory network and an expanded discussion of approaches for estimating local pollutant concentrations in urban areas. CASAC also commented on the importance of consideration of co-pollutants in the interpretation of epidemiologic studies on the health effects of CO, and EPA has expanded the discussion in the ISA of confounding, effect modification and other factors influencing the evaluation of CO epidemiologic studies.

In closing, my thanks again to you and the CASAC Panel members for your review of the second draft ISA. Your advice and detailed comments were very valuable in guiding EPA's revisions to the second draft ISA. The final *Integrated Science Assessment for Carbon Monoxide* has been recently completed and can be found at <http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/cfm/recordisplay.cfm?deid=218686>. Your work helps us to ensure that the best science is used in informing the regulatory process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa P. Jackson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Lisa P. Jackson

cc: Kyndall Barry  
Holly Stallworth  
CASAC CO Review Panel