



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

**OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD**

January 26, 2015

EPA-SAB-15-002

The Honorable Gina McCarthy
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Subject: Science Advisory Board (SAB) Consideration of EPA Planned Actions in the Spring 2014 Unified (Regulatory) Agenda and their Supporting Science

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

As part of its statutory duties, the Science Advisory Board (SAB) recently concluded discussions about possible review of the science supporting major EPA planned actions associated with the Spring 2014 Unified (Regulatory) Agenda and Regulatory Plan. The EPA Office of Policy provided notice of the release of this information on May 23, 2014. The SAB held a public teleconference on January 23, 2015, to discuss whether to review the science supporting any of the planned regulatory actions in that agenda in order to provide advice and comment on the adequacy of the science, as authorized by section (c) of the Environmental Research, Development and Demonstration Authorization Act.

The SAB focused its attention on three major actions identified by the EPA Office of Policy as being planned but not yet proposed as of the date the Agenda was published in the *Federal Register*. At the public teleconference, the SAB decided that it will not undertake review of the science supporting any actions in the semi-annual regulatory agenda at this time. It notes, however, that one action, the Interstate Transport Rule for the 2008 Ozone NAAQS (2060-AS05), is not at a point in its regulatory development that the EPA could provide sufficient information for the SAB to consider whether Board review is necessary. The SAB requests that the Office of Air and Radiation provide the SAB with more information about the scientific basis for this action as soon as that information becomes available. The SAB plans to reconsider potential Board review at that time.

The SAB appreciates the information provided by the EPA Office of Policy and the EPA program offices describing the planned actions, associated scientific questions, and agency plans for scientific analyses and peer review. The written information provided and the results of fact-finding discussions with EPA Staff are available on the SAB website.

On behalf of the SAB, I thank you for the opportunity to support EPA through consideration of the science supporting actions in the agency's regulatory agenda.

Sincerely,

/signed/

Dr. David T. Allen, Chair
Science Advisory Board

Enclosure

(1) Roster of SAB Members

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