



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

SEP 21 2006

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Rogene Henderson, Ph.D.
Chair
Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Dr. Henderson:

Thank you for the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee's (CASAC's) July 26, 2006, review of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Air Quality Criteria for Lead (Second External Review Draft), Volumes I and II (EPA/600/R-05/144aB-bB, May 2006). This draft lead air quality criteria document (Pb AQCD), which is being updated to provide scientific bases for the currently ongoing periodic review and revision of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Lead (Pb NAAQS), had incorporated revisions made in response to earlier CASAC peer review and public comments. I was pleased with your comments suggesting improvements to the Second External Review Draft based on previous comments.

The EPA Office of Research and Development's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) staff is progressing quickly on making revisions to the Pb AQCD chapters in response to public comments and CASAC review of the Second External Review Draft Pb AQCD. This includes having updated versions of the Integrative Synthesis Chapter and the Executive Summary, which were posted on the NCEA website on August 1st for public comment and e-mailed the same day to CASAC Lead Panel members for review on the August 15th teleconference.

We look forward to the CASAC Lead Panel's constructive advice regarding those materials.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Johnson".

Stephen L. Johnson