

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for Sulfur Oxides (SO_x)

Clarifications on the Integrated Review Plan (IRP) and REA Planning Document

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Clarifications on SO₂ IRP and REA Planning Document

- Existing SO₂ Standard
 - Set to limit health effects reported in both controlled human exposure (5 to 10 minute SO₂ exposures) and epidemiologic studies (1-hour to 24-hour ambient SO₂).
 - Informed by air quality characterization and exposure modeling relating 5-minute peak SO₂ concentrations to 1-hour average SO₂ concentrations, as well as by SO₂ air quality data in U.S. cities where emergency department visit and hospitalization studies were conducted.
- SO₂ IRP
 - Presents a set of policy-relevant questions that will serve to focus the current review on the critical scientific and policy issues.
 - Identifies key uncertainties remaining from prior REA that may be better characterized by newly available data/information.
 - Discusses the scope and organization of key assessment documents and their review.
- SO₂ REA Planning Document
 - Document will evaluate newly available information, as well as consider results from prior REA, to determine whether a new REA would substantially reduce uncertainties or generate substantially different risk results.
 - Will fully evaluate newly available ambient monitoring data (in ISA and this planning document), including the relationship between 5-minute and 1-hour concentrations.
 - Will include evaluation of newly available health effect information (controlled human exposure and epidemiological studies) relevant for use in an REA.