

05-21-16 Preliminary Draft Comments from Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) Particulate Matter Panel. These preliminary pre-meeting comments are from individual members of the Panel and do not represent CASAC consensus comments nor EPA policy. Do not cite or quote.

**Preliminary Comments from Dr. Jack Harkema on
EPA's *Integrated Review Plan for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards
for Particulate Matter (External Review Draft – April 2016)*
05-21-16**

Comments on Chapter 1, Introduction

Overall the sections on legislative requirements (1.1), overview of the NAAQS review process (1.2), history of reviews of the PM NAAQS (1.3), general scope of the current review (1.4) and anticipated schedule for the current review (1.5) are clearly and concisely articulated and provide the necessary introductory information and outline for the remainder of the document.

It would be helpful for the reader to provide definitions and examples for *sensitive groups* and *at-risk populations* early in the document and prior to their use in this chapter (i.e., p1-3 112 and p1-13 127) and in subsequent chapters. In this regard, how susceptibility and vulnerability relate to sensitive groups and at-risk populations could be incorporated in these definition(s) and examples and explained in more detail in later chapter(s).

Query. In 1.1 (Legislative Requirements), should more emphasis be placed on sensitive groups and at-risk populations in regards to the adequate margin of safety (e.g., 1-3, 11-14)?