



January 22, 2010

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mail Code 6102T
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460
Facsimile: (202) 566-9744
E-Mail: a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov

Re: Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Sulfur Dioxide,
Docket ID No. **EPA-HQ-OAR-2007-0352**

Dear Sir or Madam:

On December 8, 2009, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed to revise the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) (74 Federal Register 64810). The NAAQS had not been changed since 1971. Many health studies support revising the NAAQS.

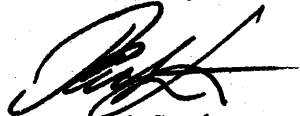
EPA is proposing to do the following, among other things:

1. Revise the standard by establishing a 1-hour standard of between 50-100 ppb SO₂;
2. Require that a portion of the monitors be located in areas of expected maximum concentrations of SO₂; and
3. Change the requirements for monitors to incorporate improvements in technology.

The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) supports the proposal by EPA to revise the NAAQS for SO₂ to establish a 1-hour standard of between 50 and 100 ppb. As EPA proposed, a portion of the monitors should be sited in the areas where the maximum concentrations of SO₂ are expected. Regarding improved technology for monitors, H-GAC supports EPA's proposal to require better technology, technology that is currently in use in the H-GAC area, to monitor for SO₂.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Sincerely,



Jack Steele

JS/jbf

cc: Dr. Michael J. Stewart
Health and Environmental Impacts Division, EPA