UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

August 8, 2002

OFFICE OF
THE ADMINISTRATOR

Dr. Phillip L. Hopke
Chair, Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC)
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Dear Phil:

I wish to thank you for the CASAC PM Review Panel colleagues who at the CASAC's request participated in a recent EPA RTP meeting on July 18-19, 2002 for the purpose of reviewing the Aug 2 NOC Final Revised Review Draft (EPA/600/P-99/002aC) of the revised PM Assessment for Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter. We very much appreciate the helpful, constructive comments and advice provided by your and other members of the PM AQCR Panel, with regard to the subject draft PM Air Quality Criteria Document (PM AQCD) and the EPA's methodologies for setting its revised standards.

As per discussions at that public meeting, my office (OAR/OAQPS) has proceeded, in work with our colleagues in EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) and others, to develop a plan to have by mid-September 2002 the revised EPA staff recommendations affecting assessment of PM dose-response epidemiology studies in Chapter 8 (Epidemiology) and Chapter 9 (Exposure) of the subject PM AQCD, the plan to include advance changes to the draft document to incorporate any resulting revisions of OAQPS's other reference copy studies and other recently available research (through April 2002) and to incorporate future review in parallel for the revised draft document. Thank you for the continuation of conversation for follow-up information exchanges with the CASAC PM Review Panel, scheduled for 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on August 28, 2002.

Accordingly, please find attached the following materials for use in the upcoming teleconference conversation:

Attachment A: Proposed Revised Plan for Evaluating Epidemiology Studies for Inclusion in Assessing Published Particulate Matter (PM) Exposure-Response Studies for Air Record Criteria Studies (2002)

Attachment B: Proposed EPA Plan for Evaluating Exposures and Their Relevance for Epidemiology Studies and Other Research Optimizing Approaches Using GAM