



January 29, 2014

Senator Andres Ayala  
Representative Selim G. Noujaim  
Legislative Regulation Review Committee  
State Capitol, Room 011  
Hartford, CT 06106

**Re: *Connecticut Air Quality Standards Update and a Revision to the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality***

Dear Senator Ayala and Representative Noujaim:

Pursuant to section 4-170 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), I submit for your consideration and approval a proposal to update the ambient air quality standards as required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Department is taking this action to revise the Connecticut ambient air quality standards to be consistent with the current federal ambient air quality standards for fine particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, nitrous oxide, ozone, carbon monoxide and lead.

EPA has established ambient air quality standards for each of six criteria pollutants at levels necessary to protect public health with an adequate margin of safety. EPA reviews each standard on a five-year cycle and updates the standard if warranted by the latest science. As the Department has not revisited the Connecticut air quality standards in a number of years, many ambient air quality standards require a change in the level of the standard to maintain consistency with the federal standards. As the standards proposed for adoption apply to the ambient air, not to the emissions from an individual source, the proposal is not expected to have a direct impact on any individual source.

If there are any general questions regarding this submission, please contact Robert LaFrance, the Department's Legislative Liaison, at 860-424-3401 (office) or 860-622-1797 (cell). If you have any substantive or rule drafting questions, please contact Merrily A. Gere of the Bureau of Air Management at 860-424-3416. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel C. Esty  
Commissioner

cc: Robert LaFrance, DEEP