

comprising representatives from EPA (*i.e.*, the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS), the Office of Research and Development (ORD) and Regional Offices), and State and local agencies and Tribes, *i.e.*, the principal Federal grantee organizations that operate the majority of the monitoring networks. The NAAMS document contains technical information underlying planned revisions of the National Ambient Air Monitoring program. The Strategy proposes a restructuring of the national regulatory-based air monitoring networks—commonly referred to as National Air Monitoring Stations (NAMS), State or Local Air Monitoring Stations (SLAMS), and Photochemical Assessment Monitoring Stations (PAMS)—to accommodate emerging priorities of air programs, the public and the scientific community. Specifically, the NAAMS provides a series of proposed changes for network design and improvements, assessments of existing networks, incorporation of new measurement and information transfer technologies, and revisions both to the current quality assurance program and the monitoring regulations. The principal proposed changes include:

(a) A shift toward collocated multiple pollutant monitoring stations under a new national monitoring network design referred to as “NCore.”

(b) Incorporation of new continuous particle monitoring instruments, additional air toxics measurements and information transfer technologies to enhance the scope of near-real-time data delivered to the public.

(c) Adoption of new network design recommendations and the introduction of advanced monitoring technologies through performance-based standards.

(d) Reductions in existing monitoring stations that provide limited value for public protection or air quality planning needs, with attendant resource savings redirected to meeting new measurement needs.

EPA intends to propose revisions to the monitoring regulations that have emerged from this strategy during 2003. A public comment period on the proposed regulations will be announced at a later date by EPA’s Office of Air and Radiation. The NAAMS document is available through EPA’s Ambient Monitoring Technology Information Center (AMTIC) Web site at the following URL address: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/amtic/stratmem.html>. Any questions concerning the NAAMS should be directed to Dr. Richard Scheffe, EPA’s OAQPS Monitoring and Quality Assurance Group Leader, at

phone: (919) 541-4650; or e-mail: [Scheffe.Rich@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Scheffe.Rich@epamail.epa.gov).

#### **Request for and Proposed Charge to the NAAMS Subcommittee**

EPA’s Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) has requested that the Clean Air Act Scientific Advisory Committee form a subcommittee to review the NAAMS document. The “Widecast” notice requesting nominations to this new NAAMS Subcommittee of the CASAC appeared in the **Federal Register** on November 5, 2002 (67 FR 67403), and noted that nominees should be recognized, national-level experts in one or more of the following disciplines: (a) Atmospheric sciences and air quality simulation modeling; (b) health effects and exposure; (c) air quality measurement science; or (d) State or local agency experience. This new CASAC subcommittee is charged with providing consultation to EPA on the technical bases and design aspects of the National Ambient Air Monitoring Strategy. In particular, the Subcommittee is asked to provide a formal consultation on the following elements of the strategy:

(a) The NCore proposal, including conceptual approach to tiered monitoring levels, recommended measurements and numbers and locations of Level 2 sites. Consideration to phasing of measurements included in Level 2 sites should be addressed based on currently available and expected emerging monitoring technologies. The Subcommittee is also requested to advise on the scope and breadth of research-grade Level 1 sites.

(b) The use of spatial analysis approaches for network design and other air program planning needs. The monitoring strategy has utilized various spatial design approaches on National and Regional scales to identify areas of redundant monitoring as well as gaps requiring additional monitoring.

(c) The use of performance-based approaches for standardizing monitoring method requirements for particulate matter measurements. Performance-based approaches rely on applying data quality objectives to determine the allowable statistical uncertainties for instrument performance. This third subject area has evolved from discussions with the existing CASAC Subcommittee on Particulate Monitoring, and plays an important role in facilitating accommodation of new technologies into air monitoring networks.

#### **Availability of Additional Meeting Materials**

Copies of the draft agendas for the meetings that are described in this notice will be posted on the SAB Web site ([www.epa.gov/sab](http://www.epa.gov/sab)) (under the “Agendas” subheading) approximately 10 days before each NAAMS Subcommittee public meeting or teleconference. Other materials that may be available will also be posted on the SAB Web site during this time-frame.

#### **Providing Oral or Written Comments at SAB Meetings**

It is the policy of the EPA Science Advisory Board to accept written public comments of any length, and to accommodate oral public comments whenever possible. The EPA Science Advisory Board expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously-submitted oral or written statements.

*Oral Comments:* In general, each individual or group requesting an oral presentation at a face-to-face meeting will be limited to a total time of ten minutes (unless otherwise indicated). For teleconference meetings, opportunities for oral comment will usually be limited to no more than three minutes per speaker and no more than fifteen minutes total. Deadlines for getting on the public speaker list for a meeting are given above. Speakers should bring at least 35 copies of their comments and presentation slides for distribution to the reviewers and public at the meeting.

*Written Comments:* Although the SAB accepts written comments until the date of the meeting (unless otherwise stated), written comments should be received in the SAB Staff Office at least one week prior to the meeting date so that the comments may be made available to the committee for their consideration. Comments should be supplied to Mr. Butterfield at the address/contact information noted above in the following formats: One hard copy with original signature, and one electronic copy via e-mail (acceptable file format: Adobe Acrobat, WordPerfect, Word, or Rich Text files (in IBM-PC/Windows 95/98 format)). Those providing written comments and who attend the meeting are also asked to bring 35 copies of their comments for public distribution.

#### **Meeting Access**

Individuals requiring special accommodation at this meeting, including wheelchair access to the conference room, should contact Mr. Butterfield at the phone number or e-mail address noted above at least five