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Sent: Friday, 27 August 2010 1:20 PM

To: Kerry Scott

Subject: AAQ_Template__NEPM_Review_Standards_Discussion_Template.doc

Submission no:

**REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
(AMBIENT AIR QUALITY) MEASURE
AIR QUALITY STANDARDS DISCUSSION PAPER**

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The headings below have been extracted from the discussion paper. **Chapter 5: Issues to be considered in evaluation of NEPM standards** (page 140 of *AAQNEPM Review Air Quality Standards Discussion Paper*) provides further discussion on these questions.

ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED

Q1. Is there sufficient new health evidence to support a revised standard and if so, for which pollutants?

Based on what was presented I would have to say yes it is worth reviewing all the pollutants to ensure the standards are set at an appropriate concentration.

Q2. Does the current approach, which allows for a number of exceedances of the standard, meet the requirement for adequate protection or are there alternative methods that could provide more consistency in the level of health protection associated with complying with the NEPM standards?

The approach that involved reporting all exceedances and explaining the ones that the result of a known and uncontrollable event (bushfire etc) seem like the best one.

Q3. Should changes be made to the reporting protocols that would lead to a greater transparency and better understanding of the causes of exceedances in jurisdictions, the potential risk to population health, and management approaches being undertaken to address these exceedances?

Feedback indicated that the general public was having trouble understanding the reports. It would then seem appropriate to review the reporting structure. It would also seem appropriate that long

term trends could now be included in the report as the NEPM reporting has been occurring for over 5 years in most places.

Q4. Any other issues you wish to raise?

Lead should be moved out of the Ambient Air NEPM and to the Air Toxic NEPM as it is only relevant to a few hot spots across Australia.

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