

October 22, 2020

Andrew Wheeler, Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Mail Code 1101A 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460 wheeler.andrew@epa.gov

VIA ELECTRONIC AND U.S. MAIL

# Re: Petition for Reconsideration of Air Quality Designation for Ector County, Texas for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard – Round 3; Final Rule, EPA–HQ–OAR–2017–0003; FRL–9972–73–OAR

Dear Administrator Wheeler:

Pursuant to Sections 307(d)(7)(B) and 107(d)(3)(A) of the Clean Air Act, the Odessa, Texas Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (Odessa NAACP), Environmental Integrity Project, Environmental Defense Fund, the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, Texas Campaign for the Environment, Environment Texas, Public Citizen, Inc., and Earthworks ("Petitioners") hereby petition the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA" or "Agency") to reconsider the decision to designate the Ector County, Texas area as unclassifiable/attainment for the Sulfur Dioxide Primary (Health-Based) National Ambient Air Quality Standard ("NAAQS"). 83 Fed. Reg. 1098 (Jan. 9, 2018).

As this Petition clearly demonstrates, air quality in and around the city of Odessa, in Ector County, Texas, is failing to meet EPA's primary, health-based, sulfur dioxide standard. Flaring at oil and gas production, gathering, and processing facilities in the Permian Basin is the main culprit for the dangerous levels of sulfur dioxide in the Odessa region's air. Flaring in the Permian Basin releases thousands of tons of excess illegal pollution, including toxics like benzene and hydrogen sulfide, and greenhouse gases including methane and carbon dioxide. In addition, the Permian Basin is a hotspot for sulfur dioxide flaring emissions. Sulfur dioxide is a potent air pollutant that

harms the respiratory system even in brief exposures. As few as five minutes of breathing airborne SO<sub>2</sub> can cause coughing, tightness in the chest, and difficulty breathing that lasts for hours.

This Petition demonstrates that oil and gas flaring causes unsafe SO<sub>2</sub> levels in Ector County's air. In fact, based solely on "emission events," as that term is defined by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, these industry self-reported emissions cause levels of SO<sub>2</sub> in and around Odessa, Texas far in excess of the primary health-based NAAQS limit set by EPA. This pollution damages the health and disrupts the lives of the county's residents and visitors.

EPA created this Primary (also called the "1-hour," or "short-term exposure") Sulfur Dioxide national ambient standard in 2010 to protect people from the dangers posed by short-term exposure to SO<sub>2</sub>. We urge EPA to reconsider its prior decision to classify Ector County, Texas as unclassifiable/attainment for the 2010 one-hour sulfur dioxide primary NAAQS, as determined in 83 Fed. Reg. 1098 (Jan. 9, 2018). EPA should instead propose and move to finalize a nonattainment designation for Ector County, based on the overwhelming evidence in this Petition demonstrating that the county's air quality fails to meet this minimum national standard. This important first step will put EPA, the State of Texas, and Ector County on the path toward achieving cleaner air in Odessa, Texas.

# I. Air Quality in Ector County Fails to Meet the National Health-Based Ambient Standard for Sulfur Dioxide.

# A. Modeling of Actual Sulfur Dioxide Emissions Shows Clear NAAQS Violations for Every Averaging Period From 2014-2019.

Industrial sources in Texas are required to self-report emission events, which are unauthorized upsets, startups, and shutdowns that release pollution above reportable quantities. Based solely on these industry self-reported emissions, levels of SO<sub>2</sub> are well above those likely to cause adverse health impacts and contribute to an unacceptable level of risk for local residents and visitors.

The attached air dispersion modeling study shows that even a fraction of Ector County's total sulfur dioxide emissions (i.e., merely a subset of industry-reported SO<sub>2</sub> emissions) cause violations of the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS at multiple receptors.<sup>1</sup> The modeling study analyzes a subset

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> H. Andrew Gray, Ph.D., Modeling the SO<sub>2</sub> Impacts From Intermittent Flare Events in Ector County, Texas (October 2020) Attachment 1.

of data comprised of reportable emission events, which Texas defines as "[a]ny emissions event that in any 24-hour period, results in an unauthorized emission from any emissions point equal to or in excess of the reportable quantity as defined in this section."<sup>2</sup> These unauthorized emission events are pollution releases distinct from routine emissions authorized by permit at these sources. Modeled sources include Ector County oil and gas facilities regulated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("TCEQ"), such as gas plants, tank batteries, compressor stations, booster stations, and storage units, as well as oil and gas exploration and drilling operations.

The study modeled hourly SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at 961 gridded receptors placed every 1 mile based on emission event reports for these sources from 2014 through 2019. The results, as shown in the following Table, demonstrate that the 3-year average design value for the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS – which corresponds to the 99th percentile, or 4th highest, maximum daily 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> concentration –exceeded the acceptable standard of 196  $\mu$ g/m3 (equivalent to 75 parts per billion) at between 164 and 252 receptors for each 3-year period during the six years.

Modeled	Maximum		
3-Year	Receptor	Grid Cells	Grid Cells
Average	(µg/m3)	> 196 µg/m3	> 400 μg/m3
2014-2016	2,687.1	252	80
2015-2017	2,091.5	229	73
2016-2018	1,908.8	164	52
2017-2019	2,050.0	187	60

Table 1. Modeled 3-Year Average Design Values for 1-Hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS<sup>3</sup>

This means that for any given three year period, between 17% and 26% of Ector County, from 164 to 252 square miles, experienced air quality that violated the NAAQS. Even more disturbing, 52 to 80 receptors show design values more than twice the allowable concentration, and the maximum receptor exceeds that concentration by a factor of 10. These violations are most prevalent in the northern central part of the county, which is mostly rural and several miles west of Odessa, near the town of Goldsmith.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 101.1(88).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Table 3, H. Andrew Gray, Ph.D., Modeling the SO<sub>2</sub> Impacts From Intermittent Flare Events in Ector County, Texas (October 2020).

The following map of Ector County, taken from Fig. 23 of the modeling study, shows the extent of modeled SO<sub>2</sub> violations for the most recent averaging period, 2017-2019. The red overlay represents the area where modeled design value concentrations exceed the standard of 196  $\mu$ g/m3.



Figure 1. Modeled SO<sub>2</sub> Concentrations Exceeding 196 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 2017-2019

In this map, 187 of 961 receptors, 187 square miles or approximately 19% of the total area of Ector County, show air quality that violates the SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS. The town of Goldsmith lies entirely within the red violation area.

In addition to the gridded receptors, the study modeled SO<sub>2</sub> levels at 20 discrete receptors where people live, work, and worship, including residences, businesses and churches. Because much of Ector County is sparsely populated, these receptors were chosen to represent a geographically diverse set of locations where human exposure is highly likely. The study shows NAAQS violations at many of these receptors, demonstrating that people are being exposed to dangerous levels of SO<sub>2</sub> as a direct result of the modeled events.

Location	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019
Goldsmith Grocery, W Gulf Ave., Goldsmith	731.2	902.8	845.2	583.5
Odessa City Hall, W 8 <sup>th</sup> St., Odessa	98.3	71.2	86.5	75.9
Residence, N Aster Ave., Gardendale	145.0	150.1	92.9	95.2
Western Skies RV Campground, Hwy 20, Penwell	143.1	140.3	62.9	64.6
Residence, Larchmont Pl., Odessa	160.8	155.0	101.1	118.3
Ranch, Boys Ranch Rd., west of Marion Flint	189.8	205.7	207.2	197.4
Goldsmith Community Church, N. Goldsmith Ave	818.5	975.8	823.7	530.7
Residence, W 40 <sup>th</sup> St., West Odessa	224.8	100.9	97.3	153.6
Residence, W Berry St., Odessa	80.8	56.8	51.8	57.7
University of Texas Permian Basin, Odessa	60.2	57.4	56.7	75.1
Ranch, Cottonwood Dr., west of Wire Line Rd.	187.8	179.8	158.3	177.9
Ranch, YT Ranch Rd., west of Chapel Hill Rd.	293.2	241.5	210.9	325.2
Residence, N Carter Ave., West Odessa	201.6	215.0	119.3	146.9
Ector College Prep Success Academy, Odessa	104.0	84.5	48.0	55.3
Faith Community Baptist Church, West Odessa	217.0	199.8	83.1	89.8
Residence, W Ivory St., Pleasant Farms	52.0	54.3	20.9	32.2
Odessa Meteor Crater Museum, Odessa	96.7	101.9	45.6	50.2
Ranch, YT Ranch Rd., east of James Lake	452.3	512.5	448.5	524.4
Residence, 3 <sup>rd</sup> St., Notrees	165.6	159.5	104.5	118.1
Ranch, W Apple St., Pleasant Farms	37.4	34.0	15.5	31.3

# Table 2. Modeled 3-Year Average Design Values for 1-Hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS at Discrete Receptors (µg/m3)<sup>4</sup>

As shown in the above table, 3-year average design value for the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS, which corresponds to the 99th percentile (4th highest) maximum daily 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> concentration, exceeds the standard of 196  $\mu$ g/m3 (equivalent to 75 parts per billion) at between five and seven locations (out of the 20 modeled discrete receptor locations), depending on the three-year averaging period. Levels are highest in Goldsmith, Texas, which has a population of 277.<sup>5</sup> At both Goldsmith Grocery and Goldsmith Community Church, the 3-year average design value is more than double the health-based standard, and depending on the averaging period, it is as high as five times the health-based standard.

Modeling results unambiguously demonstrate that Ector County is not attaining the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> standard. This is especially concerning because the modeling study is based on only a subset of actual emissions in and around the county.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Data from 2 and 5, H. Andrew Gray, Ph.D., Modeling the SO<sub>2</sub> Impacts From Intermittent Flare Events in Ector County, Texas (October 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> United States Census Bureau, Population and Housing Unit Estimates, July 1, 2019.

#### **B.** The Modeling Study Follows EPA Guidelines.

The modeling study for this Petition was completed by H. Andrew Gray for Environmental Integrity Project. Dr. Gray received his Ph.D. in environmental engineering from the California Institute of Technology and has over 40 years of experience performing air dispersion modeling and related analyses. The modeling was conducted in AERMOD, with additional processing of weather and surface geographic data, which is EPA's preferred dispersion modeling tool for regulatory assessments of industrial point sources, including determinations of compliance with national ambient air quality standards like the SO<sub>2</sub> standard at issue here.<sup>6</sup>

The modeling protocol for the study followed EPA's modeling guidelines and the AERMOD implementation guide.<sup>7</sup> Emission information was obtained from industry self-reports of emission events, which sources submit to TCEQ through the State of Texas Environmental Electronic Reporting System ("STEERS"). Reports include information adequate to accurately model the emissions, including the location of the event, total amount of each pollutant released, start and end times of the event, and more. Additional source parameters, such as stack height and exit temperature, were obtained from publicly available TCEQ files, and conservative values were assumed where necessary data was unavailable.

#### C. The Modeling Study Conservatively Underrepresents Actual SO<sub>2</sub> Emissions.

The modeling study is conservative and underrepresents actual SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations because it models only a subset of emissions: reportable emission events from sources regulated by the TCEQ. As discussed above, these emission events are unauthorized pollution releases. Thus, this data does not include emissions from routine flaring or other combustion processes authorized by permit for the 173 modeled sources, which are a significant source of air pollution in Ector County. Nor does it contain unauthorized emission events below the reportable threshold. Further, the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Factors to be used in determining whether areas are in violation of the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS include: (1) Air quality characterization via ambient monitoring or dispersion modeling results; (2) emissions-related data; (3) meteorology; (4) geography and topography; and (5) jurisdictional boundaries. Air Quality Designations for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard—Round 2, 81 Fed. Reg. 45039 at 45043 (July 12, 2016) ( citing Memorandum from Stephen D. Page, Director, U.S. EPA, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, to Air Division Directors, U.S. EPA Regions 1–10 (March 10, 2015)).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Guideline on Air Quality Models, 40 CFR Part 51, Appendix W. Published in the Federal Register, Vol. 70, No. 216, November 9, 2005; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. AERMOD Implementation Guide. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711. 2009.

modeling study does not take into account any background levels of  $SO_2$ , and does not include emissions from any other sources in or out of the county (with the exception of 5 sources in southern Andrews County), meaning that all modeled levels are incremental and attributable entirely to the modeled sources. As demonstrated in Map 1 below, there is significant flaring in the adjacent Permian Basin counties of Andrews, Martin, Midland, and Crane, which likely contributes to  $SO_2$  concentrations in Ector County. None of these emissions are included in the modeling study.

Despite relying on only a limited subset of actual emissions, the study still shows much of Ector County in violation of the NAAQS. For residents of Ector County, these modeled levels of SO<sub>2</sub> correspond to real-world harm.

#### **II.** Sulfur Dioxide Levels in Ector County Are Harming People.

SO<sub>2</sub> is a potent air pollutant that harms the respiratory system and makes breathing difficult from exposures as short as a few minutes. Children, the elderly, and those who suffer from asthma are particularly vulnerable to the effects of SO<sub>2</sub>. SO<sub>2</sub> also reacts with other pollutants in the atmosphere to form fine particulate matter, a distinct pollutant that can penetrate deep into the lungs and cause additional harm.

#### A. SO<sub>2</sub> Exposure Causes Adverse Health Effects.

In its in-depth review of SO<sub>2</sub> studies, including controlled human exposure, epidemiologic, and toxicological evidence, EPA found a causal relationship between respiratory morbidity and short-term exposure to SO<sub>2</sub>.<sup>8</sup> A causal relationship is the most definitive finding the EPA can make regarding pollutant effects on human health. The immediate effect of SO<sub>2</sub> exposure to the respiratory system is bronchoconstriction, which then triggers mucus secretion, mucosal vasodilation, cough, and apnea followed by rapid shallow breathing.<sup>9</sup> The strongest evidence showed that short-term (5-minutes to 24-hours) exposure to ambient SO<sub>2</sub> caused respiratory morbidities including "lung function decrements, respiratory symptoms, hospital admissions, and emergency department visits."<sup>10</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Environmental Protection Agency, Integrated Science Assessment ("ISA") for Sulfur Oxides – Health Criteria (September 2008) at 5-2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Sulfur Dioxide; Proposed Rule, 74 Fed. Reg. 64810 at 64816 (Dec. 8, 2009) (citing ISA).

For example, in numerous free-breathing chamber studies, asthmatic individuals exposed to SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations as low as 200–300 parts per billion ("ppb") for 5–10 minutes during exercise experienced moderate or greater bronchoconstriction, measurable loss of lung function, and respiratory effects including coughing, wheezing, chest tightness, and substernal irritation.<sup>11</sup> In the epidemiologic studies, SO<sub>2</sub>-related effects on respiratory morbidity were observed in areas where the mean 24-hour average SO<sub>2</sub> levels ranged from 1 to 30 ppb, with maximum values ranging from 12 to 75 ppb.<sup>12</sup> EPA found that children, adults over 65 years old, and asthmatics are more sensitive to SO<sub>2</sub> exposure.<sup>13</sup> The strongest epidemiologic evidence of an association between short-term SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and respiratory symptoms was in children. Asthmatics are also more sensitive to the effects of SO<sub>2</sub>, likely resulting from preexisting inflammation associated with this disease.<sup>14</sup>

EPA found that the data supported a strong association between ambient SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and emergency room visits and hospitalizations for all respiratory causes and asthma.<sup>15</sup> Further, the epidemiological evidence for short term SO<sub>2</sub> exposure suggested a causal relationship with all-cause (nonaccidental) and cardiopulmonary mortality.<sup>16</sup>

In addition to the studies reviewed for the ISA, the Agency stated that "measurable negative effects of air pollution on quality of life should be considered adverse."<sup>17</sup> EPA also accepted guidance from the American Thoracic Society in concluding that "exposure to air pollution that increases the risk of an adverse effect to the entire population is adverse, even though it may not increase the risk of any individual to an unacceptable level."<sup>18</sup> This is so because even if the pollution levels are not high enough to increase any individual's risk unacceptably, it nevertheless diminishes the reserve function of the population and increases their risk of being affected by other pollutants.

SO<sub>2</sub> pollution also contributes to the formation of secondary fine particulate matter, which causes additional adverse respiratory and cardiac health effects. A study of county-level emission

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> *Id.* at 64816 - 817.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> ISA at 5-9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Sulfur Dioxide; Proposed Rule, 74 Fed. Reg. at 64820.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> ISA at 5-2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> ISA at 3-21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> ISA at 3-49.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Sulfur Dioxide; Proposed Rule, 74 Fed. Reg. at 64817
 (quoting American Thoracic Society, *What constitutes an adverse health effect of air pollution?*, American Journal of Respir. Crit. Care Med, 161, at 665-67(200)).
 <sup>18</sup> Id.

data calculated the health costs of primary and secondary particulate matter exposure from emission events in Ector County at over \$10,000,000 for 2015 alone.<sup>19</sup>

More recent health studies of SO<sub>2</sub> confirm these risks and suggest that SO<sub>2</sub> may cause additional adverse effects. A study based on data from the nearby Eagle Ford Shale field in south Texas found that a high number of nightly flaring events in proximity to residences was associated with a 50% increase in the chances of preterm births and shorter gestation among Hispanic women.<sup>20</sup> And a study of 17 cities in China found that increased ambient SO<sub>2</sub> levels were associated with increased total, cardiovascular, and respiratory mortality.<sup>21</sup>

# **B.** EPA Created the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS Because Short-term Exposure Is Especially Dangerous.

The potency and alacrity of SO<sub>2</sub>'s adverse health effects led the EPA in 2010 to adopt the current 1-hour, 196  $\mu$ g/m3 (75 ppb) standard and revoke the prior 24-hour and annual standards.<sup>22</sup> The Agency determined that this standard was necessary to adequately safeguard the health and safety of Americans, including "sensitive" populations such as asthmatics, children, and the elderly, with a margin for error.<sup>23</sup>

EPA adopted a 1-hour standard because SO<sub>2</sub> causes negative health effects from exposures as brief as five minutes. In this respect SO<sub>2</sub> exposure is very different from other criteria pollutants with longer duration standards. Pollutants like ozone, with an 8-hour standard, or particulate matter, with 24-hour and annual standards, require longer exposures to cause harm. In contrast, SO<sub>2</sub> can cause adverse symptoms from much shorter exposures, and those symptoms can last for hours after the exposure ends. This is important because a vast majority of the modeled violations are from short-duration, high-intensity flaring events that cause short-term spikes in SO<sub>2</sub> levels. These short-term spikes lead to the kind of exposure most likely to cause harm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Zirogiannis et. al., *Understanding Excess Emissions from Industrial Facilities: Evidence from Texas*, Environ. Sci. Technol. (Jan. 27, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Cushing et. al., *Flaring from Unconventional Oil and Gas Development and Birth Outcomes in the Eagle Ford Shale in South Texas*, Environmental Health Perspectives (July 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Chen et. al., *Short-term exposure to sulfur dioxide and daily mortality in 17 Chinese cities: The China air pollution and health effects study (CAPES)*, Environmental Research 118 (2012).

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Sulfur Dioxide, 75 Fed. Reg. 35520 (June 22, 2010).
 <sup>23</sup> Id. at 35526.

Unfortunately, as shown in the modeling study, dangerous spikes of SO<sub>2</sub> occur in Ector County, including in areas where people live, work, worship, and recreate. SO<sub>2</sub> levels exceed the health-based standard in multiple locations for every three-year averaging period in the six years analyzed. Many receptors—including at places inhabited by people—show three-year average design values over double the safe limit, and the worst receptors show three-year average design values over ten times the safe limit.

These modeled levels are well above the NAAQS, and firmly in the range at which SO<sub>2</sub> can and will cause adverse health effects. People who live, work, and travel in Ector County are being placed at an unacceptable risk of respiratory harm due to SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the ongoing flaring from oil and gas facilities. Ector County's current attainment designation is incorrect, and fails to protect the 166,223 women, men, and children who live there.<sup>24</sup> The county desperately needs federally-enforceable program of emissions reductions to achieve compliance with the NAAQS.

#### C. Ector County Residents Experience Adverse Health Effects From SO<sub>2</sub>.

The modeled NAAQS violations are consistent with the lived experiences of local residents during the frequent air pollution episodes in Ector County. During these episodes, residents are prevented from enjoying even brief periods outside their homes due to SO<sub>2</sub>-laden air that causes a host of respiratory problems. Residents regularly see flares and smell the acrid odor indicative of SO<sub>2</sub>, and experience negative health effects associated with SO<sub>2</sub> exposure, including shortness of breath, tightness in their chests, coughing, difficulty breathing, nausea, irritation of the eyes, and irritation of the throat and lungs. The adverse respiratory effects of even a short exposure can persist for hours. Many residents have been forced to take steps to reduce their exposure to air pollution by, for example, avoiding spending time outside their homes, or closing the windows and vents in their car while driving. The pollution is pervasive and frequently interferes with their lives. SO<sub>2</sub> pollution and its adverse health effects prevent people from gardening, enjoying a cup of coffee on the porch, grilling in the backyard, and a host of other activities that most of us take for granted. We submit this Petition in the hope that EPA will take steps to remedy this unsustainable situation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, July 1, 2019.

#### III. Additional Evidence of Poor Air Quality in Ector County

Ector County's designation merits reconsideration on the strength of the above modeling demonstration alone. In addition to that clear evidence of NAAQS violations, this section contains further evidence that systematically under-reported emissions from oil and gas activity in the Permian Basin are causing ongoing violations of SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS.

#### A. Ector County Residents Experience Elevated Levels of Asthma.

Ector County residents experience increased incidence of asthma, putting them at greater risk of harm from SO<sub>2</sub>. Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center estimates that 20% of school children in Ector County have asthma, and that asthma symptoms are the leading cause of school absences here.<sup>25</sup> This is far above national average for childhood (age <18) asthma of 11.6%.<sup>26</sup>

The three year moving average for 2013-2015 for adults (age 18+) in Ector County who have ever been diagnosed with asthma was 13.5% compared to the statewide average of 11.8%.<sup>27</sup> Between 2013 and 2017, lifetime asthma prevalence rates in adults in Ector County increased at a rate greater than the statewide rate. In 2015-2017, the moving average for adults in Ector County who have been diagnosed with asthma increased to 15.7%, while the state-wide average increased to 12.1%.<sup>28</sup> For 2015-2017, the most recent period for which accurate data is available, Ector County's adult asthma rate exceeded the statewide average by 29.8%.<sup>29</sup>

As discussed above, people with asthma are among the most vulnerable to the adverse health impacts of breathing SO<sub>2</sub>. They are more likely to experience respiratory symptoms from even short exposures, and their lungs are less able to cope with those symptoms, including difficulty breathing, coughing, wheezing, and irritation of the airways. The 75ppb standard was developed with such sensitive populations in mind. With both childhood and adult asthma rates

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Odessa American, Open house set for renovated Texas Tech pediatric clinic (May 30, 2018) (citing Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center News Release).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2018 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) Data, Table 2-1 Lifetime Asthma Prevalence Percents by Age, United States: National Health Interview Survey, 2018 (available at <u>https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/nhis/2018/table2-1.htm</u>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Community Hospital Consulting, Medical Center Hospital Community Health Needs Assessment and Implementation Plan (August 2019) (citing CARES Engagement Network, Health Indicator Report: logged in and filtered for Ector County, TX, https://engagementnetwork.org/; data accessed April 9, 2019; Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Center for Health Statistics, Texas Department of State Health Services; data accessed April 9, 2019).

 $<sup>^{28}</sup>$  *Id.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Id.

significantly higher than state and national averages, Ector County residents are especially vulnerable to the NAAQS violations modeled in the study.

#### B. EPA Lacked Adequate Data to Classify Ector County as attainment.

Ector County was designated Unclassifiable/Attainment in the absence of any air quality data supporting that designation. Ector County lacks any single source large enough to require classification under 42 USC § 51.120. Because of this, the State of Texas did not gather ambient monitoring data or conduct any modeling to support its attainment recommendation to the EPA.<sup>30</sup> But modeling of expected SO<sub>2</sub> exposures based on a limited subset of emissions data demonstrates that Ector County regularly experiences dangerous levels of SO<sub>2</sub>, due primarily to 173 smaller sources which collectively cause and contribute to significant SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS violations.

#### C. The Nearest SO<sub>2</sub> Monitor Shows Levels Exceeding the NAAQS.

For the period covered in the study, there was no SO<sub>2</sub> monitor present in Ector County; the nearest monitor was in Big Spring, Texas, approximately 54 miles from Ector County's eastern border.<sup>31</sup> This monitor began collecting data in December 2016, and almost immediately began recording measurements above the 75ppb standard. The following table shows the dates on which the Big Spring monitor recorded an hourly concentration of SO<sub>2</sub> in excess of 75ppb.

# Table 3. Dates of Hourly SO2 Concentration Exceedances in Excess of 75ppb at the BigSpring Monitoring Site (2017-2020)

Date	Ambient SO <sub>2</sub> (ppb)
1/11/2017	78.2
1/24/2017	98.1
6/27/2017	88.3
7/24/2017	86.6
11/18/2017	84.7
11/20/2017	79.7
11/24/2017	117.3
12/23/2017	107.3
1/7/2018	77.4
1/10/2018	76.2

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Environmental Protection Agency, Technical Support Document: Chapter 39 - Intended Round 3 Area
 Designations for the 2010 1-Hour SO2 Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Texas at 1.
 <sup>31</sup> EPA Site Number: 482271072, CAMS: 107, located at 1218 N. Midway Rd, Big Spring TX,79720 (data available at: <u>https://www17.tceq.texas.gov/tamis/index.cfm?fuseaction=report.view\_site&siteAQS=482271072</u>).

1/19/2018	133.6
1/31/2018	76.0
2/15/2018	99.7
2/16/2018	99.4
3/9/2018	460.1
3/20/2018	81.1
11/17/2018	91.7
8/2/2019	79.9
8/3/2019	108.7
8/9/2019	91.9
8/13/2019	79.6
2/27/2020	110.5
3/1/2020	81.9
3/11/2020	93.5
4/19/2020	399.8

The Big Spring monitor data represents the closest data available to Ector County, and shows a pattern SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS violations, including spikes in excess of five times the standard in 2018 and 2020.

#### D. TCEQ Receives Frequent Complaints of SO<sub>2</sub> Odors in Ector County.

As the agency tasked with protecting Texas' environment, TCEQ receives and investigates environmental complaints. Since January 2014, TCEQ received 249 complaints related to air quality in Ector Country.<sup>32</sup> Of those, 140 complaints specifically describe odors. People in Ector County consistently complain about foul, rotten-egg, sulfur odors that cause difficulty breathing and other health issues. Many complaints identify specific oil and gas facilities as the suspected source of the pollution. These complaints are further evidence that SO<sub>2</sub> emissions are having direct, negative impacts on the health and quality of life of Ector County residents.

# E. Oil and Gas Flares Emit Roughly Double the Emissions of Sulfur Dioxide Reported to the State's Emission Inventory.

The National Emissions Inventory and the Texas Emissions Inventory fail to include significant flaring emissions and woefully undercount the actual levels of emissions from oil and gas activity. In Texas, two state agencies have overlapping, and sometimes conflicting, jurisdiction

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> TCEQ Complaint Status, sorted for Ector County, January 1, 2014 through October 15, 2020, available at https://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/waci/index.cfm.

over oil and gas flares: The Texas Railroad Commission regulates oil and gas drilling and also authorizes flaring at oil and gas wells; whereas, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is responsible for air permitting for all sources.

The TCEQ requires some, but not all operators to report their annual point source emissions inventories. Oil and gas drillers who are regulated by the Railroad Commission do not report routine emissions directly to the TCEQ. They report to TCEQ only unauthorized emission events for which emissions exceed reportable quantities. For routine emissions, oil and gas drillers instead report the annual amount of gas that is vented or flared at each oil and gas lease to the Railroad Commission, and then TCEQ obtains this data and uses it to develop area source emission estimates. These emissions are required to be included in the State's Emissions Inventory, and are also included in the State Implementation Plan for achieving and maintaining the national ambient air quality standards. The Texas Emission Inventory woefully undercounts oil and gas emissions.

Emissions from oil and gas production that are found in the Texas Emission Inventory come from two sources. For larger oil and gas sites that meet the emissions reporting thresholds in 30 Tex. Admin. Code Section 101.10, the owners or operators of the sites estimate the emissions and report them to the TCEQ annually in their point source emissions inventories. For smaller sites that do not meet the reporting thresholds found in 30 Tex. Admin. Code Section 101.10, the TCEQ estimates the emissions as non-point (or area) source emissions. These are county-level estimates based on production data obtained from the Texas Railroad Commission ("RRC"), such as the active number of oil and gas wells and the annual amount of crude oil and natural gas production.

Area source oil and gas emissions have been estimated using several methods. Reports that detail these methods, as well as the estimated annual emissions that have been included in the Texas SIP include:<sup>33</sup>

• *Characterization of Oil and Gas Production Equipment and Develop a Methodology to Estimate Statewide Emissions* (2010).<sup>34</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> These and additional studies since 2001, detailing all of TCEQ's oil and gas production emission estimates found in the Texas SIP are available here: <u>https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/airmod/project/pj\_report\_ei.html</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> This report is available on the TCEQ's Air Quality Research and Contract Reports website at: https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/implementation/air/am/contracts/reports/ei/5820784003FY1026-20101124-ergi-oilGasEmissionsInventory.pdf.

- Condensate Tank Oil and Gas Activities (2012)
- Upstream Oil and Gas Heaters and Boilers (2013)
- Specified Oil and Gas Well Activities Emissions Inventory Update (2014)

None of these studies, nor any of Texas's or EPA's regulatory actions that relied on the emissions estimates found in these studies, adequately account for all actual oil and gas flare emissions.

The TCEQ develops area source emissions inventories every three years and submits them to the EPA for the National Emissions Inventory ("NEI"). The most recent NEI was developed for calendar year 2017 per federal reporting requirements. 2017 Texas statewide SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from area source oil wellhead flaring were estimated to be 19,092 tpy. 2017 Texas statewide SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from area source gas wellhead flaring were estimated to be 4,233 tpy.

To demonstrate the magnitude of the oil and gas well flaring emissions that TCEQ and EPA have failed to consider, we reviewed the most recent available Texas Railroad Commission flare data, which covered the period from October 2018 through September 2019,<sup>35</sup> for the Railroad Commission's District 8 (which covers a portion of the Permian Basin including Ector and Midland Counties). We relied on the Railroad Commission's Hydrogen Sulfide Fields Concentrations Listings for an average hydrogen sulfide concentration per field.<sup>36</sup> We assumed 98% conversion of hydrogen sulfide to sulfur dioxide, which is a common industry practice, although we acknowledge that 100% destruction of hydrogen sulfide is typically expected.

We used the following standard engineering calculations to determine how much hydrogen sulfide and sulfur dioxide oil and gas drillers emitted in the Railroad Commission District 8 over the one-year study period:

Flared Calculations:<sup>37</sup>

$$tons H_2 S = \frac{field \ concentration \ H_2 S \ ppm}{1,000,000 \ ppmv} \times Volume \ Vented \ (MCF) \times 1,000 \ \left(\frac{scf}{MCF}\right) \times \frac{34.1 \ molar \ weight \ H_2 S \ \frac{lb}{lb - mol}}{379.3 \ \frac{scf}{mol}} \times \frac{ton}{2,000 \ lb} \times 0.02 \ (gas \ not \ combusted)$$

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> TX RRC Production Report Queries. Available at <u>http://webapps.rrc.texas.gov/PR/publicQueriesMainAction.do</u>.
 <sup>36</sup> TX RRC Hydrogen Sulfide (H2S) Fields & Concentrations Listings. Available at <u>https://www.rrc.state.tx.us/oil-gas/research-and-statistics/field-data/h2s/</u>.
 <sup>37</sup> Id.

$$tons \, SO_2 = \frac{field \ concentration \ H_2S \ ppm}{1,000,000 \ ppmv} \times Volume \ Vented \ (MCF) \times 1,000 \ \left(\frac{scf}{MCF}\right) \\ \times \frac{34.1 \ molar \ weight \ H_2S \ \frac{lb}{lb - mol}}{379.3 \frac{scf}{mol}} \times \frac{64.1 \ molar \ weight \ SO_2 \ \frac{lb}{lb - mol}}{34.1 \ molar \ weight \ H_2S \ \frac{lb}{lb - mol}} \times \frac{ton}{2,000 \ lb} \\ \times \ 0.98 \ (gas \ combusted)$$

Vented Calculation:<sup>38</sup>

$$tons H_2 S = \frac{field \ concentration \ H_2 S \ ppm}{1,000,000 \ ppmv} \times Volume \ Vented \ (MCF) \times 1,000 \ \left(\frac{scf}{MCF}\right) \times \frac{34.1 \ molar \ weight \ H_2 S \ \frac{lb}{lb - mol}}{379.3 \frac{scf}{mol}} \times \frac{ton}{2,000 \ lb}$$

Based on available data, oil and gas operators in RRC District 8 flared roughly 141 BCF of gas between October 2018 and September 2019, and vented about 3,213 thousand cubic feet during that period. Flaring this much gas, much of it high in hydrogen sulfide content, would have resulted in an estimated 48,459 tons of SO<sub>2</sub> and 1,466 tons of H<sub>2</sub>S. Venting and flaring on oil and gas leases located in Martin and Howard counties likely resulted in the highest estimated emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>S.

Our results by county are shown in the following table:

IN KKU DISIFICI 8, Q4 2018-Q5 2019								
County	Total SO <sub>2</sub> (tons)	Total H <sub>2</sub> S (tons)						
Martin	11,309	966						
Howard	11,158	121						
Midland	5,373	83						
Reeves	4,542	52						
Andrews	3,547	70						
Ector	2,675	33						
Glasscock	2,520	30						
Pecos	2,005	31						
Crane	1,795	25						
Loving	1,037	11						

Table 4. Estimated tons of SO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>S from wellhead flaring In RRC District 8, Q4 2018-Q3 2019

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Air Permits Division. New Source Review (NSR) Emission Calculations. Available at:

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/permitting/air/Guidance/NewSourceReview/emiss\_calc\_flares.pdf.

Total	48,459	1,466
Unknown	484	5
Sterling	7	0
Mitchell	45	0
Winkler	525	6
Culberson	551	6
Ward	886	27

As demonstrated above, Permian Basin area flares at sources regulated by the Texas Railroad Commission emitted 48,459 tons of sulfur dioxide in the most recent year, over double the state-wide total of 23,325 tons found in TCEQ's annual Emission Inventory. This difference holds for Ector County, where flares emitted at least 2,575 tons of sulfur dioxide compared to the Emission Inventory total of 1,028 tons.

The following map illustrates the SO<sub>2</sub> "hot spots" based on our analysis of the RRC flaring data described above, and shows high concentrations of SO<sub>2</sub> flaring emissions in Ector and surrounding counties:



Figure 2. SO<sub>2</sub> Flaring Emissions Per Lease, 2017

# IV. The Administrator Must Convene a Proceeding for Reconsideration in Accordance With § 307(d)(7)(B) of the Clean Air Act.

Petitioners present this information pursuant to § 307(d)(7)(B) of the Clean Air Act, which provides an opportunity for the public to object to an Agency designation even after the public comment period closes, provided that: 1) the grounds for such objection arose after the period for public comment and 2) the objection is of central relevance to the outcome of the rule.<sup>39</sup> If these requirements are satisfied, the "Administrator shall convene a proceeding for reconsideration of the rule and provide the same procedural rights as would have been afforded had the information been available at the time the rule was proposed."<sup>40</sup>

#### A. The Grounds for This Petition Arose After the Comment Period.

As discussed above, grounds for this Petition arose after the comment period, which closed in 2017. The modeling study analyzed all Ector County emission events from 2014 through the end of 2019, and was completed in October 2020. This newly available air quality information shows widespread NAAQS violations across the county and is the grounds for this objection to Ector County's attainment designation. This new information arose after the close of the comment period, and so EPA must convene a rulemaking proceeding to reconsider the erroneous designation of unclassifiable/attainment for the 2010 SO<sub>2</sub> Primary NAAQS for Ector County.

# **B.** The Information in This Petition Is of Central Relevance to Ector County's Attainment Classification.

This Petition is of central relevance to the county's designation because it is evidence of severe and pervasive air quality issues that negatively impact the residents of Ector County and violate state and federal law. This Petition is based on the first and only modeling of air pollution data for the area, which shows frequent exceedances of the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS despite modeling only a fraction of actual emissions. Had this information been available at the time the rule was proposed, Ector County would have been properly designated nonattainment.

Because the grounds for this Petition arose after the period for public comment and this objection is of central relevance to the outcome of the rule, the Administrator must convene a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> 42 U.S.C. § 7607(d)(7)(B).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Id.

proceeding for reconsideration. Petitioners urge EPA to issue a final nonattainment designation for Ector County based on the overwhelming evidence that demonstrates that rampant flaring in the Permian Basin has caused and will continue to cause exceedances of the SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS absent a comprehensive program of emissions reductions.

#### V. Conclusion

Excessive flaring at oil and gas facilities is poisoning the air in Ector County. Levels of sulfur dioxide exceed the health-based standard established by the EPA across large areas of the County, including areas where people live, work, pray, and recreate. These dangerous levels of air pollution harm local residents and reduce the quality of life for the entire region. Without effective regulation to bring flaring under control, West Texans will continue to breathe air that fails to meet Clean Air Act standards. To redress this harm, EPA should designate Ector County as nonattainment for the primary (one-hour) SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS.

Respectfully Submitted,

ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY PROJECT

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

# Modeling the SO<sub>2</sub> Impacts From Intermittent Flare Events in Ector County, Texas

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October 2020

Report prepared for Environmental Integrity Project Austin, Texas

#### INTRODUCTION

### Scope of Work

I have been retained by the Environmental Integrity Project to address, from the perspective of an atmospheric scientist, the issue of whether sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from intermittent flare releases from oil and gas facilities have substantially contributed to elevated levels of air pollution in Ector County, Texas. Using incident reports filed by these facilities as part of the State of Texas Environmental Electronic Reporting System and obtained from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, for the six-year period between 2014 and 2019, I evaluated the air quality impacts (SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations) that occurred throughout Ector County, Texas due to emissions from intermittent flare events at numerous oil and gas facilities. I address in this report the question of whether these emissions likely caused violations of the primary (health-based) national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for SO<sub>2</sub>.

### Methodology

Based upon my education and professional experience as an atmospheric scientist, I conducted an air dispersion modeling analysis to determine the SO<sub>2</sub> air quality impacts in the surrounding area due to intermittent emission events from oil and gas flares in Ector County, Texas. I compiled the necessary information to describe the SO<sub>2</sub> emissions between 2014 and 2019. I used this information as input to the AERMOD dispersion model which simulated the dispersion of the SO<sub>2</sub> into the surrounding community for every hour during the entire six-year period.

# Conclusions

Based on the emission data and modeling analysis that I conducted, I conclude that SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the oil and gas flares did, in fact, substantially contribute to elevated levels of SO<sub>2</sub> in the ambient air over a large area within Ector County. The model estimates that the 1-hour Primary NAAQS for SO<sub>2</sub> was violated at numerous locations throughout the county.

# Qualifications

I am an environmental engineer and atmospheric scientist with over 40 years of professional experience performing air quality dispersion modeling and related analyses. I received my Bachelor of Science (BS) in civil engineering / engineering and public policy from Carnegie-Mellon University in 1979. I earned a Master of Science (MS) and a Ph.D. in environmental engineering science from the California Institute of

Technology (Caltech), with a minor emphasis in numerical methods. My doctoral thesis, on the control of atmospheric carbon particles in the Los Angeles region, includes a number of analyses that have been relied upon and cited repeatedly by atmospheric modelers, researchers, and government planners during the last thirty years.

I have developed, evaluated, and applied air pollution dispersion models in academic, regulatory and consulting environments. I developed and applied the methodologies for assessing particulate matter and visibility that were used by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (Southern California) for their air quality management plans during the 1980s and 1990s. I managed a team of researchers that evaluated the MESOPUFF model (the precursor to CALPUFF) for the US Interagency Workgroup on Air Quality Modeling (IWAQM).

As a consultant, I have modeled the air quality impacts of thousands of emission sources, using a variety of air quality models (including AERMOD, CALPUFF, CAMx, CMB, etc.) for various clients, including industry (e.g., diesel engine manufacturers and the off-shore container shipping industry), government (e.g., US EPA and US Dept. of Justice), and environmental organizations (including Sierra Club and National Parks Conservation Association).

I have authored hundreds of technical reports, many of which have been published in peer-reviewed journals and symposia. I have provided expert testimony regarding air dispersion modeling analyses at numerous hearings, depositions, and at trial. In April 2014, I was invited by the Royal Institute of International Affairs to participate in the "Balancing Global Energy Policy Objectives: A High-Level Roundtable" meeting.

I have expertise in air quality monitoring, statistical analyses, atmospheric chemistry, meteorology, particle processes, atmospheric transport and deposition, numerical methods, computer modeling, air quality control strategy design, and environmental public policy. An integral part of my research has involved developing, applying, and evaluating computer modeling tools to determine the air quality impacts of emission sources in the areas surrounding those sources. My experience and qualifications are described in detail in the attached resume (Attachment A).

# **MODEL APPLICATION**

# **Model Selection**

The AERMOD air quality model was used to determine the increase in ambient SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in Ector County due to intermittent emissions from 173 oil and gas

facilities located around Odessa, Texas, mainly in Ector County. AERMOD<sup>1,2,3</sup> is a steady-state plume model that considers atmospheric dispersion based on the planetary boundary layer turbulence structure and scaling concepts. AERMOD has been adopted in federal rule by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the preferred near-field dispersion model for regulatory assessments of industrial point sources, including determinations of compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), and evaluations of proposed new source emission.<sup>4</sup>

In addition to the AERMOD dispersion model, the AERMOD modeling system includes AERMET, a meteorological data preprocessor. The protocol that I used for this modeling analysis follows the guidance for AERMOD and AERMET applications established in US EPA's modeling guidelines<sup>5</sup> and the AERMOD implementation guide.<sup>6</sup>

This report describes the modeling exercise that I conducted using the AERMOD model to evaluate the impact of intermittent oil and gas flare emissions on ambient SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in Ector County. The necessary input data including emission rates, receptor and meteorological data, and modeling options, are described below, followed by a summary of the model results.

# Source Data

SO<sub>2</sub> is emitted from the oil and gas facilities from various emission points throughout Ector County. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) maintains records of Emissions Events, which are essentially unauthorized emissions from upsets and unplanned maintenance events, and these are the intermittent emission incidents I modeled in this study. The Incident Reports obtained from TCEQ include information such as the location of the facilities, the start date and time, end date and time, and amount of SO<sub>2</sub> (lbs) released during each emission event. Incident Reports for 2014 through 2019 were obtained from TCEQ for use in this study.<sup>7</sup> For modeling purposes,

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. AERMOD: Description of Model Formulation. EPA-454/R-03-004. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711. September 2004.
 <sup>2</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Addendum: User's Guide for the AMS/EPA Regulatory Model – AERMOD. EPA-454/B-03-001. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711, March 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. User's Guide for the AMS/EPA Regulatory Model – AERMOD. EPA-454/B-16-011. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711. December 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Guideline on Air Quality Models, 40 CFR Part 51, Appendix W. Published in the Federal Register, Vol. 70, No. 216, November 9, 2005.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. AERMOD Implementation Guide. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711. 2009.

http://www.epa.gov/ttn/scram/7thconf/aermod/aermod\_implmtn\_guide\_19March2009.pdf <sup>7</sup> TCEQ's Emission Event Report Database, <u>https://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eer/</u>

it was assumed that the SO<sub>2</sub> emissions were released at a constant rate between the start date/time and end date/time.

Source information required by the AERMOD model for point sources includes the location of each emission release, the height (above ground) of release, the stack diameter, stack gas temperature, exit velocity, and the pollutant emission rate.<sup>8</sup> Source parameters, including release height, stack diameter, exit velocity, and exit gas temperature, were obtained from publicly available TCEQ files, including TCEQ's point source database and facility-specific permit and application files. Stack heights were obtained for 48 facilities, stack diameters were obtained for 42 facilities, exit velocities were obtained for 20 facilities, and exit temperatures were obtained for 30 facilities.

The locations (UTM coordinates<sup>9</sup>) were estimated using information contained in permit files or the TCEQ Incident Reports, along with Google Earth maps and aerial images. Figure 1 shows the locations of the modeled emission releases.<sup>10</sup>

For those facilities that did not have reliable stack parameter data, conservative default values were used in the modeling (default stack height: 13.72 m, default stack diameter: 0.30 m, default exit velocity: 20.0 m/s, default exit temperature: 1273 K). It should be noted that these default stack parameter values produced higher than average plume rise for each of these sources, which resulted in somewhat lower (conservative) concentration impacts than would be expected if the actual stack parameter data (if known) had been used. The modeled locations and stack parameters for all 173 facilities are shown in Appendix A.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> "Pollutant emission rate" is the mass of pollutant released into the atmosphere per unit time (lb/hour).
 <sup>9</sup> UTM (Universal Transverse Mercator) coordinates (meters) are located in UTM Zone 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> A few of the modeled emission releases affecting air quality in Ector County were located in southern Andrews County, to the north of Ector County.

### Figure 1. Modeled Sources

UNIVERSITY ANDREWS BATTERY 14T **GUDLAND FARMS UNIT NORTH FLAR** UNIVERSITY ANDREWS BATTERY 12T UNIVERSITY ANDREWS 1E and 11T BATTERY BUM A BATTERY (115) N COWDEN UNIT TE AT ST 7 ANDLI 38 BATTERY 🔍 NOU BATTERY SO TEST STATION 8 **SOUTH FAULT BLOCK UN** GANDU SATELLITE 33 TANK BATTERY TELLITE 31 NB BATTERY AND GANDU SATELLITE 21 ELAIN CORRIGAN COWDEN SOUTH BATTERY GLDU STATIONS ADAM TANK BATTERY ON COMDEN UNIT TO 20 ON COWDEN UNIT TO 20 OWDEN UNIT TO 19 TTERIC DUISA TANKI GOLDSMITH LANDRETH SAN ANDRES CENTRAL BOLDSM SMITH LARORES EP UNIT STATION 14 **NGHT B TANK BATTERY** GSAU 1 14 SATELLITE BATTERY O GOLDSMITH SAN AN EN UNIT TO NO 2 **PLANT** COWDEN UNIT TRACT 4 SATELLIT COWDEN UNIT CENTRAL BATTERY CA GOLDSMITH SOF U 2 2 SATELLITE BATTERATE SAU 1 147 PUMP OUT CA GOLDBMITH 1 1 00 PUMP OUT OC ISON DEEP UNIT CA GOLDEMITE SAT OF PO L JOHNSON H TANK BATTERY (191) GOLDBHITH BAN ANDRES UNIT BAT 308 FOSTER & TANK BATTERY CAG 878 SATELLITE BATTERY SOUTH MOJO BOOSTER STATI BAGLEY A TANK BATTER FOSTER SATELLITE E F COWDEN B STORAGE SYSTEM AND SATELLITE DEMITCHER SATELLITE SOUTH FOSTER UNIT CENTRAL TANK BAT SATELLITE NO 2 JE WITCHER FM CAND 7 Ector FV ADDIS D SEPARATION FACILITY THELMA LOU OTIS TANK BATH S COWDEN INJECTION FAC COWDEN BOOSTER STATION SOUTH COWDEN & BATTERY VPU 1 and MILLARD C TANK BATTERY MILLARD A and D.TANK BATTERY MILLARD B TANK BATTE CONMELL SATELLITE 1 OFD TANK BATTERY JORDAN UNIVERSITY UNIT SATELLITE 1 EDWARDS E BATTERY DAN UNIVERSITY OIL UNIT AND WATER STATION

In total, 4,347 incidents were modeled. SO<sub>2</sub> was emitted from all 4,347 incidents during 305,836 different source-hours between 2014 and 2019, accounting for a total duration of 301,652.5 hours. The total duration is equivalent to 5.7 "sources" running full-time for all six years. The total SO<sub>2</sub> emitted from incidents from all 173 sources for all six years was 46,244,565 lb (23,122 tons). Incident information by year is presented in Table 1, below.

Year	# of Incidents	Total Hours	SO <sub>2</sub> Emitted (tons)
2014	495	53,494.0	5,059
2015	669	53,511.5	4,350
2016	568	36,669.9	3,194
2017	832	36,490.7	2,669
2018	948	47,515.6	2,849
2019	835	73,970.9	5,003
Total 2014-2019	4,347	301,652.5	23,122

### Table 1. Number, Total Duration and Total Emissions from Modeled Incidents

Overall, the average incident lasted 69.4 hours and emitted 10,638 lb, however both the incident duration and total emissions varied widely, as shown in Figures 2-13, below. The overall average emission rate for all incidents was 153.3 lb/hr (with a wide variation).

The maximum incident duration was 2,659 hours (110.8 days). 8 incidents had durations exceeding 1,000 hours.

The maximum incident total SO<sub>2</sub> emissions was 1,066,993 lb (533.5 tons), which began in late November 2016 and lasted for 15.5 days. 64 incidents had total SO<sub>2</sub> emissions exceeding 100,000 lb, or 50 tons.

The maximum incident emission rate was 39,561 lb/hr, which occurred during a twohour period in December 2016. 424 incidents had SO<sub>2</sub> emission rates that exceeded 1,000 lb/hr; 37 incidents had emission rates that exceeded 10,000 lb/hr, or 5 tons/hour.







Figure 3. Incident Duration, 2015



Figure 4. Incident Duration, 2016







Figure 6. Incident Duration, 2018



Figure 7. Incident Duration, 2019



Figure 8. Emissions Events (lb), 2014



Figure 9. Emissions Events (lb), 2015



Figure 10. Emissions Events (lb), 2016



Figure 11. Emissions Events (lb), 2017



Figure 12. Emissions Events (lb), 2018



Figure 13. Emissions Events (lb), 2019

### **Receptor Data**

The AERMOD model is designed to estimate pollutant concentrations at a specified set of locations within the modeling domain, which are referred to as the modeled "receptors". For the current AERMOD application, I defined a set of gridded modeled receptors within Ector County (30 mi x 30 mi square), as shown in Figure 14. Receptors were placed every 1 mile, accounting for 961 gridded receptors (31 N/S x 31 E/W).

The AERMOD model calculated the SO<sub>2</sub> concentration ( $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>) at each of the 961 receptor locations for every hour of the six-year model simulation (52,584 hours). The modeled concentrations at each receptor location are assumed to be representative of the surrounding 1 mi x 1 mi grid cell.<sup>11</sup>

In addition to the gridded receptors, a set of 20 discrete receptors, located at residences, ranches, churches, places of business, etc., were placed throughout Ector County, as shown In Table 2, below. The locations of the discrete receptors are also shown on the map in Figure 15.

Receptor	Туре	Location
R1	business	SE corner of Gulf Ave (HWY 158) & S. Scharbauer St., Goldsmith
R2	urban center	Intersection of W 8th St. & N Washington Ave., Odessa
R3	residential	N Aster Ave., between E Larkspur Ln. and E Goldenrod Dr., Gardendale
R4	campground	Western Skies RV Campground, HWY 20, Penwell
R5	residential	Larchmont Pl., north Odessa
R6	ranch	Boys Ranch Rd., 0.9 km west of Marion Flint (Rte 26)
R7	church	Goldsmith Community Church, S Goldsmith Ave & Avenue E, Goldsmith
R8	residential	5200 block of W 40th St., west Odessa
R9	residential	2300 block of W Berry St., south Odessa
R10	school	University of Texas of the Permian Basin, east Odessa
R11	ranch	Cottonwood Dr, 0.5 km west of Wire Line Rd.
R12	ranch	YT Ranch Rd., 3.9 km west of Chapel Hill Rd. (Rte 1936)
R13	residential	6900 block of N Carter Ave, West Odessa
R14	school	Ector College Prep Success Academy, south Odessa
R15	church	Faith Community Baptist Church, West Odessa
R16	residential	Intersection of W Ivory St. & S Beryl Ave., Pleasant Farms
R17	museum	Odessa Meteor Crater Museum, SW Odessa
R18	ranch	YT Ranch Rd., 2.9 km east of James Lake (Rte 866)
R19	residential	3rd St., Notrees
R20	ranch	NE corner of W Apple St. & S Klondyke Ave., Pleasant Farms

### Table 2. Discrete Receptors

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The gridded receptors are located at the center of each 1 mi x 1 mi grid cell.



Figure 14. Ector County AERMOD modeling domain (30 mi x 30 mi)



Figure 15. Modeling Domain Showing Locations of Discrete Receptors

# **Meteorological Data**

I assembled meteorological data for 2014-2019 for input to the AERMOD model. The model requires continuous records of surface and upper air meteorological data (including wind speeds and directions, temperatures, ambient air pressures, precipitation, etc.). These data were obtained from airport measurements. The surface data included (1) hourly Integrated Surface Data (ISD) from the Odessa Schleymeyer

Field Airport (ODO),<sup>12</sup> and (2) 1-minute Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS) wind data from ODO.<sup>13</sup> The upper air data consisted of morning radiosonde measurements (soundings) recorded each day at 1200 GMT at Midland International Airport (MAF),<sup>14</sup> located about 8 km east of Ector County.

AERMOD ignores hours with variable wind (i.e., undefined wind direction) or calm (low wind speed) conditions, resulting in zero concentrations for those hours, which can lead to an underestimation of long-term average concentrations. To address the issue of calm and variable winds associated with the hourly averaged surface wind data that is typically input to AERMOD, US EPA developed the AERMINUTE preprocessor.<sup>15</sup> AERMINUTE processes 1-minute ASOS wind data, resulting in significantly fewer hours with calm and missing winds. I used AERMINUTE (Version 15272) to reduce the number of calm wind conditions (zero wind speed) within the hourly Odessa surface data for 2014-2019 from 1,595 to 220 (out of 52,584 total modeled hours).

AERSURFACE,<sup>16</sup> a non-regulatory component of the AERMOD modeling system, was used to develop the surface characteristics at ODO, as required by AERMET. I obtained land cover/land use data from the US Geological Survey (USGS) National Land Cover Database (NLCD)<sup>17</sup> and processed the data using AERSURFACE (Version 13016) in order to determine the required micrometeorological parameters (noon-time albedo, daytime Bowen ratio, and surface roughness length) at ODO using twelve 30-degree sectors for each month. Average surface moisture was assumed for the Odessa Airport location.<sup>18</sup>

ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/noaa/readme.txt

(http://www.epa.gov/ttn/scram/7thconf/aermod/aersurface\_userguide.pdf)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> National Climatic Data Center, Integrated Surface Data (ISD) for ODO (USAF: 722648; WBAN: 03031) 2014-2019, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI), Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS) Data for Odessa, TX (ODO), 2014-2019. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/data-access/land-based-station-data/land-based-datasets/automated-surface-observing-system-asos

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL), ESRL Radiosonde Database, FSL Data for MAF (WBAN: 23023) 2014-2019. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

https://ruc.noaa.gov/raobs/General\_Information.html <sup>15</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. AERMINUTE User's Guide. U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711. 2011.

http://www.epa.gov/ttn/scram/7thconf/aermod/aerminute\_v11059.zip

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. AERSURFACE User's Guide. EPA-454/B-08-001. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711. 2008.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium (MRLC). https://www.mrlc.gov/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> According to Climate Data for US Cities (http://www.usclimatedata.com/climate/odessa/texas/unitedstates/ustx2587), the average precipitation for Odessa, TX is 15 inches. According to the Average Annual Precipitation by City in the United States (https://www.currentresults.com/Weather/US/average-annualprecipitation-by-city.php), the average annual precipitation for Austin, Dallas, and San Antonio, are 34.2, 37.6, and 32.3 inches, respectively. AERSURFACE guidelines recommend using the wet surface moisture option for locations in the top 30 percent of annual precipitation (greater than about 45 inches), and dry surface moisture for locations in the bottom 30 percentile.

I used the AERMET meteorological preprocessor (Version 16216)<sup>19</sup> to merge the hourly surface and upper air data, and to estimate a number of required boundary layer parameters using the meteorological data and surface characteristics.

# **Modeling Options**

A number of control options must be specified in order to execute the AERMOD model. For this application, regulatory default options were used, which include the use of stack-tip downwash (for point releases), and the calms and missing data processing as set forth in US EPA's modeling guidelines.<sup>20</sup> There are almost no topological features in Ector County, so the model was run in "flat" mode (i.e., no terrain effects). The model's averaging time was set to one hour and default flagpole receptor heights were assumed to be 1.5 m. The majority of Ector County is sparsely populated, so the "Rural" modeling option was selected within AERMOD.<sup>21</sup>

I used the most recent version of AERMOD (Version 16216r) to estimate the SO<sub>2</sub> concentration impacts due to emissions from the intermittent flares at each of the 173 modeled facilities. No background concentrations were added to the modeled impacts, therefore the modeled concentrations represent the incremental impact to the surrounding community from the modeled incidents.

# MODEL RESULTS

The AERMOD model was used to estimate the average SO<sub>2</sub> concentration due to emissions from the 173 modeled facilities for every hour of the six-year (2014-2019) modeling period at every gridded and discrete receptor location. The current Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for SO<sub>2</sub><sup>22</sup> requires that the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile of 1-hour daily maximum SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations, averaged over 3 years, is below 75 ppb (equivalent to 196 ug/m3). The modeled 99<sup>th</sup> percentile (4<sup>th</sup> highest) maximum daily 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations for each year are shown in Table 3, below, for the gridded receptors. Three-year averages of the modeled 99<sup>th</sup> percentile maximum daily 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations for the gridded receptors are shown in Table 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. User's Guide to the AERMOD Meteorological Preprocessor (AERMET). EPA-454/R-03-003. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711. 2004. http://www.epa.gov/ttn/scram/7thconf/aermod/aermet\_userguide.zip

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Guideline on Air Quality Models, 40 CFR Part 51, Appendix W. Published in the Federal Register, Vol. 70, No. 216, November 9, 2005.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> The "URBAN" modeling option would incorporate the effects of increased surface heating from an urban area on pollutant dispersion under stable nighttime atmospheric conditions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/naaqs-table

A shown in Tables 3 and 4, the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS level was exceeded during each model year, and for each three-year averaging period, at numerous locations throughout Ector County.

	Maximum		
	Receptor	Grid Cells	Grid Cells
Model Year	(µg/m3)	> 196 µg/m3	<mark>&gt; 400 μg/m3</mark>
2014	4,624.6	170	72
2015	3,333.6	352	111
2016	2,992.5	229	80
2017	2,161.2	128	34
2018	3,022.2	159	47
2019	4,996.8	279	82
6-year avg	1,714.2	209	67
6-year max	4,996.8	461	166

Table 3. Annual Modeled Design Values for 1-Hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS<sup>23</sup>

#### Table 4. Modeled 3-Year Average Design Values for 1-Hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS

Modeled	Maximum		
3-Year	Receptor	Grid Cells	Grid Cells
Average	(µg/m3)	> 196 µg/m3	> 400 μg/m3
2014-2016	2,687.1	252	80
2015-2017	2,091.5	229	73
2016-2018	1,908.8	164	52
2017-2019	2,050.0	187	60

Figures 16-23 show the modeled three-year average SO<sub>2</sub> design value concentration impacts due to emissions from the 173 facilities.<sup>24</sup> The modeled three-year average 99<sup>th</sup> percentile daily maximum hourly SO<sub>2</sub> concentration (NAAQS design value) exceeded the allowable NAAQS level (196  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>) across a large area of the modeling domain (the red areas shown in Figures 16-23): 252 square miles in 2014-2017, 229 square miles in 2015-2017, 164 square miles in 2016-2018, and 187 square miles in 2017-2019 (one square mile is equivalent to 2.59 km<sup>2</sup>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Design values correspond to the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile (4<sup>th</sup> highest) maximum daily 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> concentration. <sup>24</sup> Contours are shown in Figures 16, 18, 20, and 22 for concentrations up to 196  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>. The red areas represent design value concentrations that exceed 196  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>.



Figure 16. Modeled Design Value SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations (µg/m<sup>3</sup>), 2014-2016

Figure 17. Modeled SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations exceeding 196 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 2014-2016





Figure 18. Modeled Design Value SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations (µg/m<sup>3</sup>), 2015-2017

Figure 19. Modeled SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations exceeding 196 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 2015-2017





Figure 20. Modeled Design Value SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations (µg/m<sup>3</sup>), 2016-2018

Figure 21. Modeled SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations exceeding 196 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 2016-2018





Figure 23. Modeled SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations exceeding 196 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 2017-2019



Table 5 shows the modeled design values (99<sup>th</sup> percentile daily maximum hourly SO<sub>2</sub> concentration) for each model year at each of the 20 discrete receptor locations. The modeled annual design values exceeded the allowable NAAQS level (196  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>) at numerous locations throughout Ector County (between 4 and 12 discrete locations, depending on the year, accounting for 14 of the 20 discrete receptor locations), as shown in red in the table.

Receptor	UTMx (m)	UTMy (m)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	<b>2019</b>	6-yr AVG	6-yr MAX
R1	725335	3540778	330.7	<b>623.1</b>	1,239.8	845.6	450.1	454.7	657.3	1,239.8
R2	748320	3526688	121.7	87.7	85.5	40.4	133.7	53.7	87.1	133.7
R3	746500	3545500	73.4	241.4	120.1	88.6	70.1	127.0	120.1	241.4
R4	732420	3516640	47.1	320.3	61.8	38.6	88.2	67.0	103.9	320.3
R5	744025	3536317	125.2	245.2	112.0	107.9	83.3	163.6	139.5	245.2
R6	736288	3547888	155.5	175.9	238.2	203.0	180.5	208.9	193.6	238.2
R7	725253	3541377	267.4	845.0	1,343.1	739.3	388.8	464.1	674.6	1,343.1
R8	741970	3528581	428.6	178.2	67.5	56.9	167.3	236.7	189.2	428.6
R9	748072	3520648	98.4	80.6	63.5	26.3	65.4	81.4	69.3	98.4
R10	752720	3531690	55.3	62.5	62.7	47.0	60.4	117.9	67.6	117.9
R11	740100	3541720	125.6	<b>221.2</b>	216.7	101.6	156.6	275.5	182.9	275.5
R12	734425	3538475	284.3	334.2	261.2	129.1	242.5	604.0	309.2	604.0
R13	733250	3529500	85.4	433.5	86.0	125.6	146.3	168.7	174.3	433.5
R14	748720	3524600	106.8	148.9	56.4	48.3	39.5	78.2	79.7	148.9
R15	737600	3525880	79.4	451.9	119.7	28.0	101.8	139.6	153.4	451.9
R16	744760	3511055	23.8	112.9	19.4	30.7	12.6	53.2	42.1	112.9
R17	738795	3516280	41.6	203.5	45.1	57.3	34.5	58.7	73.4	203.5
R18	729780	3536216	244.1	611.1	<b>501.6</b>	424.6	419.3	729.3	488.3	729.3
R19	712136	3533400	146.3	227.6	123.0	128.0	62.6	163.8	141.9	227.6
R20	748950	3507500	33.0	67.0	12.3	22.6	11.6	59.8	34.4	67.0

#### Table 5. Modeled Design Values for 1-Hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS at Discrete Receptors

Receptor	UTMx (m)	UTMy (m)	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019
R1	725335	3540778	731.2	902.8	845.2	583.5
R2	748320	3526688	98.3	71.2	86.5	75.9
R3	746500	3545500	145.0	150.1	92.9	95.2
R4	732420	3516640	143.1	140.3	62.9	64.6
R5	744025	3536317	160.8	155.0	101.1	118.3
R6	736288	3547888	189.8	205.7	207.2	197.4
R7	725253	3541377	818.5	975.8	823.7	530.7
R8	741970	3528581	224.8	100.9	97.3	153.6
R9	748072	3520648	80.8	56.8	51.8	57.7
R10	752720	3531690	60.2	57.4	56.7	75.1
R11	740100	3541720	187.8	179.8	158.3	177.9
R12	734425	3538475	293.2	241.5	<b>210.9</b>	325.2
R13	733250	3529500	201.6	<b>215.0</b>	119.3	146.9
R14	748720	3524600	104.0	84.5	48.0	55.3
R15	737600	3525880	217.0	199.8	83.1	89.8
R16	744760	3511055	52.0	54.3	20.9	32.2
R17	738795	3516280	96.7	101.9	45.6	50.2
R18	729780	3536216	452.3	512.5	448.5	524.4
R19	712136	3533400	165.6	159.5	104.5	118.1
R20	748950	3507500	37.4	34.0	15.5	31.3

Table 6. Modeled 3-Year Average Design Values for 1-Hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS at Discrete Receptors

As shown in Table 6, the modeled three-year average 99<sup>th</sup> percentile daily maximum hourly SO<sub>2</sub> concentration (NAAQS design value) exceeded the allowable NAAQS level (196 μg/m<sup>3</sup>) at between five and seven locations (out of the 20 modeled discrete receptor locations), depending on the three-year averaging period. NAAQS exceedances (as shown in red) were observed at eight different discrete receptors: R1 (business, Goldsmith), R6 (ranch, Boys Ranch Rd.), R7 (church, Goldsmith), R8 (residence, west Odessa), R12 (ranch, YT Ranch Rd.), R13 (residence, west Odessa), R15 (church, west Odessa), and R18 (ranch, YT Ranch Rd.).

# SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

I compiled the necessary information in order to characterize the oil and gas flare SO<sub>2</sub> emission incidents from 173 facilities during the period between 2014 and 2019. I also constructed the required hourly meteorological data representing the six-year period 2014-2019. The source and meteorological data were input to the AERMOD dispersion model which was used to estimate the SO<sub>2</sub> air quality impacts throughout Ector County. The model results indicate that SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the intermittent flare releases had a significant effect on SO<sub>2</sub> air quality in Ector County. The model estimated that the oil and gas flare incidents were responsible for exceedances of the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> Primary NAAQS between 2014 and 2019 over an area of between 164 and 252 square miles within Ector County, depending on the three-year period. The 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> Primary NAAQS was exceeded at eight of the twenty modeled discrete receptor locations (residences, businesses, ranches, churches, etc.) during the six-year modeling period (2014-2019).

#### **APPENDIX A. Modeled Sources**

Customer Name (CN)	RN Number	Facility	LAT	LON	stack height	stack diameter	exit velocity	temperature
					(m)	(m)	(m/s)	(К)
OXY USA WTP LP	RN102199759	RHODES COWDEN UNIT CENTRAL BATTERY	31.953700	-102.470000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
(CN600125827)	RN102414307	JOHNSON GBSA UNIT CB	31.915537	-102.489732	12 72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102665148	RHODES COWDEN UNIT TRACT & SATELLITE	31.964300	-102.462900	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102298460	BAGLEY A TANK BATTERY	31.872200	-102.414600	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN105609424	DORA ROBERTS RANCH UNIT TRACT 19 CTB	31.758055	-102.288055	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
Citation Oil & Gas Corp.	RN110599032	JORDAN UNIVERSITY OIL UNIT AND WATER STATION	31.659100	-102.569450	6.10	0.30	20.00	1273.00
(CN600126536)	RN110573565	JORDAN UNIVERSITY UNIT SATELLITE 1	31.677950	-102.574800	6.10	0.11	20.00	1274.82
Devon Energy Production	RN105780795	RFD TANK BATTERY	31.700300	-102.382400	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
Company, L.P.	RN102500782	MF HENDERSON 1	31.711500	-102.585800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
(CN600132344)	RN105780837		31.812900	-102.363800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106426943	MCELROY H BATTERY	31 478500	-102.283300	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106426976	MCELROY F 25 BATTERY	31.504300	-102.296600	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
Oxy USA Inc.	RN102516168	JL JOHNSON H TANK BATTERY	31.913900	-102.471100	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
(CN600268296)					10 70	0.00		1070.00
XTO Energy Inc.	RN106893795	CA GOLDSMITH SAT 541 SAT	31.922222	-102.652222	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
(CN600601348)	RN102303211		31.925000	-102.627900	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN103914248	CAG 731 TANK BATTERY	31.940000	-102.625600	6.10	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN103914354	CAG 437 SATELLITE BATTERY	31.911600	-102.608300	6.10	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN103914438	GSAU 2 2 SATELLITE BATTERY 1	31.947100	-102.597000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN103914461	CAG CENTRAL BATTERY NO 448	31.935800	-102.616300	7.62	0.10	20.00	1273.00
	RN103914495	CAG 480 SATELLITE BATTERY	31.963700	-102.625800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN104149414	GSAU 1 138 PUMP OUT	31.963600	-102.637500	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN104149430	GSAU 2 2 BATTERY	31.960000	-102.617000	6.10	0.10	0.91	1273.00
	RN104149844	GSAU 1 147 PUMP OUT	31.941300	-102.603600	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN104149927	GOLDSMITH CO2 DILOT DHASE ILEACILITY	31.928300	-102.626300	24.38	0.30	12.80	1273.00
	RN106893753	CA GOLDSMITH SAT 446	31.944000	-102.608900	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106894330	CA GOLDSMITH SAT 511	31.929000	-102.644800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106902265	GOLDSMITH SAN ANDRES UNIT SAT 14	31.966649	-102.656325	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106904238	GOLDSMITH SAN ANDRES UNIT SAT 120	31.956400	-102.635600	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN108344706	CAG 266 SATELLITE BATTERY	31.941700	-102.644040	9.14	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN103914453	GSAU 2 2 SATELLITE BATTERY 2	31.949440	-102.592500	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106894603	CA GOLDSMITH SAT 541 PO	31.906740	-102.642246	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN104149463	GSAU 1 94 SATELLITE BATTERY	31.92/220	-102.599400	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN104149968	GOLDSMITH SAN ANDRES LINIT SAT 296	31.923330	-102.015500	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106894140	CA GOLDSMITH SAT 497	31.956338	-102.655869	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106900921	GOLDSMITH SAN ANDRES UNIT SAT 1 47	31.946200	-102.614300	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106901077	GOLDSMITH SAN ANDRES UNIT SAT 306	31.906090	-102.630646	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102298643	GSAU 1 306 CO2 RECOMPRESSION FACILITY	31.917000	-102.641500	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN103914701	CAG 676 SATELLITE BATTERY	31.890800	-102.609600	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN104149471	GSAU 1 86 PUMP OUT	31.918100	-102.605200	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
Ossidantal Parmian Ltd	RN104149919	GSAU 1 14 SATELLITE BATTERY	31.966900	-102.656100	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
(CN600755086)	RN102292885		31.953700	-102.470000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
(0000755000)	RN102412137	N COWDEN UNIT TEST STN 1	32.072900	-102.497800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102413135	OB HOLT R LEASE TB 1	32.061800	-102.507400	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102413655	N COWDEN UNIT TS NO 25	31.970700	-102.493600	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102413903	N COWDEN UNIT TS 26	32.007000	-102.495300	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102414083	NORTH COWDEN UNIT SOUTH CENTRAL TANK BATTERY	32.009444	-102.510277	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102416013	GSMITH LANDRETH DEEP ST12	31.996666	-102.641666	9.14	1.83	20.00	1255.37
	RN102416344	GLDU STATION 4	32.020100	-102.655700	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102410470	GUD STATION 9	31.025700	-102.638800	9 14	0.30	20.00	810.93
	RN102418381	OB HOLT S TANK BATTERY	32.054000	-102.518000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102419959	FOSTER COOP STORAGE SYSTEM AND WATER INJECTION STATION	31.842800	-102.446500	6.10	0.05	18.29	294.26
	RN102420601	BH BLAKENEY A AND B LSE 1	32.026000	-102.541800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102421344	NORTH COWDEN CO2 INJECTION FACILITY	31.970700	-102.493600	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102421369	N COWDEN UNIT TS 22	31.988900	-102.481000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102421625	N COWDEN UNIT TS 21	31.988900	-102.481000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102421716	GLDU STATION 8	32.016200	-102.672800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102421773	N COWDEN UNIT TS 20	32.043000	-102.480000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102422185	N COWDEN UNIT TS 19	31,999500	-102.502800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102422326	N COWDEN UNIT TS 18	31.992800	-102.520000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102517935	N COWDEN UNIT TEST STA 4	32.060000	-102.488800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102520467	GOLDSMITH LANDRETH DEEP UNIT STATION 3	32.015555	-102.686111	9.14	0.15	20.00	1273.00
	RN102530706	GOLDSMITH LANDRETH DEEP UNIT STATION 5	31.977600	-102.644700	9.14	0.15	20.00	1273.00
	RN102533965	N COWDEN UNIT TEST STN 3	32.031200	-102.491300	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	KN102590338	SOUTH FOSTER UNIT CENTRAL TANK BATTERY	31.847900	-102.422800	0./1 9.14	0.05	1.10 20.00	1200.37
	KN102598810	N COWDEN UNIT TEST STA 9	32.014000	-102.670500	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273 00
	RN102752020		31.996666	-102.459500	9.14	0.15	20.00	1273.00
	RN102817673	NORTH COWDEN TEST STATION 8	32,055400	-102.521000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102874062	N COWDEN UNIT TEST STA 10	32.041400	-102.514900	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102898624	N COWDEN UNIT TEST STA 6	32.053500	-102.542600	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102995461	N COWDEN UNIT TEST SATELLITE 11	32.037400	-102.532300	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102995479	N COWDEN UNIT TEST SATELLITE 14	32.027600	-102.511900	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102996055	N COWDEN UNIT TEST STA 23	31.983300	-102.499000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102996071	GOLDSMITH LANDRETH DEEP UNIT CTB AND SATELLITE 11	31.996000	-102.661700	7.32 0.17	0.09	20.00 1.52	12/3.00
	KN103024170	GULUSMITH LANDRETH DEEP UNIT STATION 1	32.016200	-102.672800	a. 14 13 72	0.00	20.00	1273.00
1	111102/20/20	IN CONVELIN UNIT TEST SAT 13	32.02/000	-105.010200				0.00

#### **APPENDIX A. Modeled Sources**

Customer Name (CN)	RN Number	Facility	LAT	LON	stack height	stack diameter	exit velocity	temperatur
					(m)	(m)	(m/s)	(К)
	RN102413416	N COWDEN UNIT TS 24	32.010982	-102.513793	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN105093835	NORTH COWDEN UNIT REINJECTON COMPRESSION FACILITY	32.020000	-102.523611	13.72	0.91	9.59	1273.00
	RN102995503	N COWDEN UNIT TEST ST 7	32.066000	-102.525000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102415163	GOLDSMITH BLAKENEY ANDRES	31.956300	-102.655900	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102771995	GOLDSMITH LANDRETH DEEP UNIT STATION 1	32.016200	-102.672800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102412145	JE WITCHER SATELLITE 4	31.838250	-102.428670	6.10	0.10	0.29	1088.71
	RN102413796	F FOSTER SATELLITE 1	31.860000	-102.441300	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102418761	JE WITCHER SATELLITE 1	31.852940	-102.432980	6.10	0.05	7.32	294.26
	RN102419686	GLDU STATION 13	31.977600	-102.671100	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102420239	S FOSTER UNIT SAT A TB	31.854400	-102.421900	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102421427	SOUTH FOSTER SATELLITE F	31.832700	-102.418000	7.62	0.61	20.00	1273.00
	RN102421856	GLDU STN NO 7	32,002730	-102.681720	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102757184	SOLITH FOSTER LINIT SATELLITE G	31 836388	-102.001720	7.62	0.06	20.00	1273.00
	PN102777255		31.847800	-102.412600	7.62	0.61	20.00	1273.00
	RN102677233		21 926700	102.412000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102945214		31.820700	102.424600	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102410140	E F COWDEN B STORAGE STSTEWLAND SATELLITE	31.858251	-102.457686	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106441454	FOSTER 8 TANK BATTERY	31.884500	-102.414360	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN108398405	NORTH COWDEN REINJECTION COMPRESSOR FACILITY	32.020000	-102.523000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN108734252	GOLDSMITH LANDRETH DEEP UNTI NORTH CTB	32.021100	-102.669200	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102419926	EF COWDEN SATELLITE NO 2	31.844000	-102.454900	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102420189	FV ADDIS D SEPARATION FACILITY	31.820200	-102.450000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102309374	BP AMERICA NORTH COWDEN GASOLINE PLT	32.012200	-102.492500	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102418589	JE WITCHER PA C AND 7	31.839800	-102.433500	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN105236426	MIDLAND FARMS UNIT NORTH FLARE	32.139600	-102.393500	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN108586108	GOLDSMITH LANDRETH DEEP UNIT NORTH CTB	32.013800	-102.672800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
CP Operating Company.	RN100209436	ANDECTOR BOOSTER STATION	32.041500	-102.681900	9.75	0.30	12.80	672.04
P (CN601229917)	RN100211549	DUKE ENERGY JUDKINS BOOSTER	31.716300	-102.597500	28.35	0.20	20.00	1255.37
,/,	RN100222320	GOLDSMITH GAS PLANT	31 980900	-102 634400	30.48	0.40	65.53	1273.15
	RN102/10/24		37 021666	-102.034400	30.48	0.34	20.00	1088.71
	PN106220152		31 031000	-102.312300	12 19	0.30	20.00	1273.00
CD Midstros	NI100320153		31.924800	-102.020400	13 72	0.30	20.00	1272.00
CP IVIIOSTREAM, LP	KN100210954	COMPEN ROOSTER STATION	31./54600	-102.476900	13.12	0.00	20.00	12/3.00
CN601229917)				105.55	10 70	0.30	20.00	1070.00
our Star Oil & Gas	KN100218890	HEADLEE COMPRESSOR STATION	31.870000	-102.301111	13.72	0.30	∠0.00	12/3.00
Company								
CN601284219)								
ConocoPhillips Company	RN102186830	GANDU 36 BATTERY	32.062700	-102.690900	7.62	0.15	20.00	1033.15
CN601674351)	RN102195955	CLYDE COWDEN BATTERY 1	31.933000	-102.583600	13.72	0.15	2.84	1033.15
,	RN102881521	SOUTH FAULT BLOCK UNIT	32 048611	-102 679444	7.62	0.15	20.00	1033.15
	RN105060043		31 933000	-102 583700	13 72	0.15	11.90	810.93
	DN106153463		32,117500	102.383700	13.72	0.15	27.98	1033 15
	RIN100155405		32.117500	-102.712000	7.62	0.15	20.00	1022.15
	RN106248347	UNIVERSITY ANDREWS BATTERY 141	32.137500	-102.738000	1.02	0.15	20.00	1033.15
	RN106262827	EMBAR 2 AND 6 BATTERY	32.080700	-102.690700	13.72	0.15	20.00	1033.15
	RN106274418	UNIVERSITY ANDREWS BATTERY 12T	32.119300	-102.740800	13.72	0.09	20.00	1033.15
	RN106336712	BUM A BATTERY	32.097200	-102.725600	7.62	0.15	20.00	1033.15
	RN106338825	MCENTIRE CENTRAL TANK BATTERY	32.048800	-102.693000	7.62	0.15	20.00	1033.15
	RN106503253	NPU 1 and MILLARD C TANK BATTERY	31.739000	-102.646800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106503261	CLYDE COWDEN SATELLITE 4	31.939000	-102.585400	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106564750	CLYDE COWDEN BATTERY 2	31 920400	-102 585000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106597891	GANDU 26 FRANK B BATTERY	32 073070	-102 704100	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106636236		31 9/3500	-102 582700	13.72	0.15	3.18	1033.15
	DN106022470		21 027462	102 570541	13.72	0.15	7 29	1033 15
	RIN100655476		31.927403	-102.570541	13.72	0.15	20.00	1033.15
	RN107712127	GANDU SATELLITE 33	32.048800	-102.679500	13.72	0.15	20.00	1033.15
	KN107712135	GANDU SATELLITE 31	32.044300	-102.694700	13.72	0.15	20.00	1033.15
	RN108320300	FRANK B CLEARFORK	32.072380	-102.692000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN108320508	GANDU SATELLITE 19	32.053900	-102.711000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN108726639	MINNS BATTERY AND GANDU SATELLITE 21	32.031933	-102.703700	13.72	0.15	14.42	1033.15
	RN108790296	GANDU BATTERY 34	31.981000	-102.635000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN109215442	EMBAR 2 - WCAB	32.048800	-102.679500	6.10	0.91	20.00	1273.00
	RN102194826	GANDU 25 BATTERY	32,043600	-102.698500	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106264724	MILLARD A and D TANK BATTERY	31 739000	-102 646800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN10204/24		31 760600	-102.040800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	NI102295524		31.700000	-102.380300	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	KN102198181	SOUTH COWDEN 6 BATTERY	31.753000	-102.384000	10.72	0.30	20.00	12/3.00
	RN105778476	FRANK A BATTERY	32.043800	-102.695100	13.72	0.30	20.00	12/3.00
	RN108790403	GANDU BATTERY 8	31.981000	-102.635000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106335573	EDWARDS E BATTERY	31.681800	-102.412100	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN105797880	GANDU CENTRAL TANK BATTERY	32.044700	-102.697700	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN106336316	MILLARD B TANK BATTERY	31.727500	-102.647000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
Burlington Resources Oil	RN109961052	GANDU BATTERY 35	32.063000	-102.673100	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
Gas Company LP								
CN602989436)								
					10 70	0.30	20.00	1070.00
hevron MidContinent,	RN101931897	NORTH COWDEN CENTRAL TANK BATTERY	32.008800	-102.512000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
.P. (CN603028317)								
inder Morgan	RN105070363	GOLDSMITH LANDRETH SAN ANDRES CENTRAL LINIT	31 987000	-102 664000	15.24	0.08	20.00	1273 00
Production Company LLC	111103575303	GOLDOWITH LANDRETH DAM ANDRED CENTRAL UNIT	31.387000	-102.004000		1.00	_0.00	.2. 0.00
Chicococococococococococococococococococo								
LN603227380)								
inn Operating, LLC	RN107097164	PATE TANK BATTERY	32.018100	-102.603960	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
CN603395690)	RN107097289	RICHARD TANK BATTERY	32.002500	-102.582000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN107098436	TRIPP JAMES TANK BATTERY	32.009300	-102.583800	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN107098741	JONAH TANK BATTERY	32,015130	-102.608640	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	PN107100224		32 010000	-102 502200	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273 00
	RN107000000		32.019000	-102.592200	13 72	0.30	20.00	1272 00
	KINTO1030692		31.994000	-102.584800	10.72	0.00	20.00	1213.00
	KN107097693	HENRY CENTRAL TANK BATTERY	31.995840	-102.579300	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN107099079	CATHERINE ELAINE KIMBERLY TANK BATTERY	32.023200	-102.588100	13.72	0.30	∠0.00	1273.00

#### APPENDIX A. Modeled Sources

Customer Name (CN)	RN Number	Facility	LAT	LON	stack height	stack diameter	exit velocity	temperature
					(m)	(m)	(m/s)	(К)
	RN107099806	GIDEON AND ELIZABETH TANK BATTERY	32.001000	-102.587000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN107100182	ADAM TANK BATTERY	32.006900	-102.610300	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
Cross Timbers Energy,	RN102305406	PENWELL SATELLITE 1	31.718900	-102.597000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
LLC (CN604493007)								
JAMES LAKE MIDSTREAN	I RN107088759	JAMES LAKE GAS PLANT	31.963000	-102.599000	39.62	0.30	19.99	1273.15
LLC (CN604509893)								
OXY USA Inc.	RN101949733	BLAKENEY OA TANK BATTERY	32.048300	-102.567400	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
(CN604677401)	RN102496916	JOHNSON DEEP UNIT	31.916200	-102.486100	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102508215	LE WIGHT B TANK BATTERY	31.979400	-102.503300	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN102515202	CORRIGAN COWDEN UNIT TB	32.028000	-102.492900	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN104282645	SOUTH MOJO BOOSTER STATION	31.875555	-102.433611	27.43	0.91	20.00	1272.59
	RN110238953	CORRIGAN COWDEN SOUTH BATTERY	32.027600	-102.486900	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
	RN101987022	FAY HOLT TANK BATTERY	32.043800	-102.554400	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
Scout Energy	RN107098196	BATTERY 2	32.014000	-102.590100	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
Management LLC	RN107098931	SAMANTHA TANK BATTERY	32.024410	-102.609000	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00
(CN605147479)	RN107099830	LOUISA TANK BATTERY	31.992600	-102.592400	13.72	0.30	20.00	1273.00

#### H. ANDREW GRAY

#### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. environmental engineering science, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, 1986

M.S. environmental engineering science, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, 1980

B.S. civil engineering/engineering and public policy, Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 1979

#### EXPERIENCE

**Dr. H. Andrew Gray** has been performing research in air pollution for over 35 years, within academic, governmental, and consulting environments. He has made significant contributions in the areas of airborne particles and visibility, including the development and application of computer-based air quality models. His areas of expertise are air pollution control strategy design and evaluation, computer modeling of the atmosphere (including AERMOD, CALPUFF, CAMx, etc.), characterization of ambient air quality and air pollutant source emissions, aerosol monitoring and modeling, visibility analysis, receptor modeling, statistical data analysis, mathematical programming, numerical methods, and analysis of environmental public policy. Dr. Gray is currently an independent contractor focusing on particulate matter and visibility related research issues. Previous Gray Sky Solutions projects include assessment of Clean Air Act and other regulations on visibility in Class I (park and wilderness) areas, development of air pollution control plans and emission inventories for tribal lands, review and development of guidelines for modeling long-range transport impacts using the CALPUFF model, evaluation of particulate air quality impacts associated with diesel exhaust emissions, air quality management plan modeling protocol review, a critical review of Clean Air Mercury Rule (CAMR) documents, and assessment of the regional air quality impacts of power plant emissions. Dr. Gray has performed dispersion modeling studies to determine the impacts associated with mercury emissions in the Chesapeake Bay region, and has evaluated the air quality, visibility and health impacts of numerous electric generating facilities, industrial sources, and container ship traffic. Recently, Dr. Grav worked with a team of researchers to evaluate the health effects due to coal-fired power plant emissions throughout China. Dr. Gray was invited by the Royal Institute of International Affairs to participate in the "Balancing Global Energy Policy Objectives: A High-Level Roundtable" meeting in April 2014.

Before starting Gray Sky Solutions, Dr. Gray was the manager of the PM<sub>10</sub> and Visibility Program at Systems Applications International (SAI / ICF Inc.). At SAI, Dr. Gray conducted and managed a number of varied air pollution research projects. In the early 1990s, Dr. Gray directed a large (over \$1 million) air-quality modeling program to determine the impact of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from a large coal-fired power plant on Grand Canyon sulfate and visibility levels. He managed projects to develop carbon particle emission data for the Denver area, designed a PM<sub>10</sub> monitoring and modeling program for the El Paso area, determined the appropriate tradeoffs between direct PM<sub>10</sub> emissions and emissions of PM<sub>10</sub> precursors, estimated the visibility effects in federal Class I areas due to the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments (results of which were incorporated into EPA's 1993 Report to Congress on the expected visibility consequences of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments), and provided assistance to EPA Region VIII's tribal air programs. Other projects include emission inventory development for Sacramento and carbon monoxide modeling of Phoenix, Arizona to support federal and regional implementation plans in those regions, systematic evaluation of the Interagency Workgroup on Air Quality Modeling (IWAQM) recommendations for the use of MESOPUFF II, a critical assessment of exposures to particulate diesel exhaust in California, and an evaluation of  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  air quality data in support of EPA's review of the federal particulate matter air quality standards. Later projects included a study of micrometeorology and modeling of low wind speed stable conditions in the San Joaquin Valley (CA), an assessment of the reductions in nationwide ambient particulate nitrate exposures due to mobile source  $NO_X$  emission reductions, an evaluation of visibility conditions in the Southern Appalachian Mountains region, a review of cotton ginning emission factors, and a critical review and assessment of the  $PM_{10}$  Attainment Demonstration Plan for the San Joaquin Valley. Dr. Gray was a member of the modeling subcommittee of the technical committee of the Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission.

Previous to his tenure at SAI, Dr. Gray was responsible for the PM<sub>10</sub> and visibility programs at the South Coast Air Quality Management District which involved directing monitoring, analysis, and modeling efforts to support the design of air pollution control strategies for the South Coast Air Basin of California. He developed and applied the methodologies for assessing PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations that were used by the District through numerous subsequent air quality management plan revisions. Dr. Gray authored portions of the 1989 Air Quality Management Plan issued by the District that describe the results of modeling and data analyses used to evaluate particulate matter control strategies. Dr. Gray was instrumental in promoting the development and application of state-of-science models for predicting particulate matter contracts, including development of the SEQUILIB and SAFER models, construction of an ammonia emission database, and development of sulfate, nitrate and organic chemical mechanisms. In addition, Dr. Gray was responsible for initiating the District's visibility control program.

In research performed at the California Institute of Technology, Dr. Gray studied control of atmospheric fine primary carbon particle concentrations and performed computer programming tasks for acquisition and analysis of real-time experimental data. He designed, constructed, and operated the first long-term fine particle monitoring network in Southern California in the early 1980s. He also developed and applied deterministic models to predict source contributions to fine primary carbon particle concentrations and constructed objective optimization procedures for control strategy design. In research carried out for the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Carnegie-Mellon University, Dr. Gray developed fuel use data for input to an emission simulation model for the northeastern United States.

#### **Specialized Professional Competence**

- Air pollution control strategy design
- Atmospheric air quality characterization
- Aerosols and visibility
- Computer modeling and data analysis
- Dispersion modeling for particulate matter and visibility

- Receptor modeling including Chemical Mass Balance (CMB) and factor analysis
- Analysis of environmental public policy

# **Professional Experience**

- Systems Applications International (SAI/ICF)—PM<sub>10</sub> and visibility program manager participated in and managed numerous air quality modeling and analysis projects for public and private sector clients, with emphasis on particulate matter and visibility research
- South Coast Air Quality Management District, El Monte, California—air quality specialist—developed and applied air quality modeling analyses to support air pollution control strategy design for the South Coast Air Basin of California
- California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California—research assistant—Ph.D. candidate in environmental engineering science. Thesis: Control of atmospheric fine primary carbon particle concentrations (thesis advisors: Dr. Glen Cass, Dr. John Seinfeld, and Dr. Richard Flagan)
- California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California—laboratory assistant performed computer programming tasks for acquisition and analysis of real-time experimental data
- Department of Mechanical Engineering, Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania—research assistant—developed fuel use data for an emissions simulation model for the northeastern United States. Grant from the U.S. Department of Energy for evaluation of national energy policy
- Department of Civil Engineering, Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania—consultant—analyzed structural retrofit design for Ferrari Dino import automobile for United States five mph crash test

# HONORS AND AWARDS

Harold Allen Thomas Scholarship Award, Carnegie-Mellon University University Honors, Carnegie-Mellon University

# **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Air and Waste Management Association American Association for Aerosol Research

# SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

The Deposition of Airborne Mercury within the Chesapeake Bay Region from Coal-fired Power Plant Emission in Pennsylvania, in press (2012)

Peer Review of the Interagency Workgroup On Air Quality Modeling Phase 2 Summary Report And Recommendations For Modeling Long Range Transport Impacts (with others), Report compiled by: John S. Irwin, Air Policy Support Branch, Atmospheric Sciences Modeling Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Research Triangle Park, NC 27711 (1999)

Source Contributions to Atmospheric Fine Carbon Particle Concentrations (with G.R. Cass), *Atmospheric Environment*, 32:3805-3825 (1998)

"Monitoring and Analysis of the Surface Layer at Low Wind Speeds in Stable PBL's in the Southern San Joaquin Valley of California" (with others), presented at the American Meteorological Society's 12th Symposium on Boundary Layers and Turbulence, Vancouver, British Columbia (July 1997)

"Estimation of Current and Future Year NOx to Nitrate Conversion for Various Regions of the United States" (with A. Kuklin), presented at the 90th Meeting of the Air and Waste Management Association, Toronto, Ontario (June 1997)

Integrated Monitoring Study (IMS) 1995: Characterization of Micrometeorological Phenomena: Mixing and Diffusion in Low Wind Speed Stable Conditions: Study Design and Preliminary Results (with others), in *Measurement of Toxic and Related Air Pollutants*, Air and Waste Management Association, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, pp. 484-500 (1996)

Regional Emissions and Atmospheric Concentrations of Diesel Engine Particulate Matter: Los Angeles as a Case Study (with G.R. Cass), in *Diesel Exhaust: A Critical Analysis of Emissions, Exposure, and Health Effects*, Health Effects Institute, Cambridge, Massachusetts, pp. 125-137 (1995)

"Assessment of the Effects of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments on Visibility in Class I Areas", presented at the 86th Annual Meeting & Exhibition of the Air and Waste Management Association, Denver, Colorado (June 1993)

"Source Contributions to Atmospheric Carbon Particle Concentrations" (with others), presented at the Southern California Air Quality Study Data Analysis Conference, Los Angeles, California (July 1992)

"Modeling Wintertime Sulfate Production in the Southwestern United States" (with M. Ligocki), presented at the AWMA/EPA International Specialty Conference on PM10 Standards and Nontraditional Particulate Source Controls, Scottsdale, Arizona (January 1992)

"Deterministic Modeling for the Navajo Generating Station Visibility Impairment Study: An Overview," presented at the 84th Meeting of the Air and Waste Management Association, Vancouver, British Columbia (June 1991)

"Receptor and Dispersion Modeling of Aluminum Smelter Contributions to Elevated PM10 Concentrations" (with R. G. Ireson and A. B. Hudischewskyj), presented at the 84th Meeting of the Air and Waste Management Association, Vancouver, British Columbia (June 1991)

Visibility and PM-10 in the South Coast Air Basin of California (with J.C. Marlia), in *Visibility and Fine Particles*, Air and Waste Management Association, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, pp. 468-477 (1990)

Chemical characteristics of PM10 aerosols collected in the Los Angeles area (with others), J. Air Pollut. Control Assoc., 39:154-163 (1989)

Atmospheric carbon particles and the Los Angeles visibility problem (with others), *Aerosol Sci. Technol.*, 10:118-130 (1989)

Receptor modeling for PM10 source apportionment in the South Coast Air Basin of California (with others), in *PM-10: Implementation of Standards*, Air Pollution Control Association, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, pp. 399-418 (1988)

Optimization of PM10 control strategy in the South Coast Air Basin (with others), in *PM-10: Implementation of Standards*, Air Pollution Control Association, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, pp. 589-600 (1988)

Quantitative high-resolution gas chromatography and high-resolution gas chromatography/mass spectrometry analyses of carbonaceous fine aerosol particles (with others), *Int. J. Environ. Anal. Chem.*, 29:119-139 (1987)

"Development of an Objective Ozone Forecast Model for the South Coast Air Basin" (with others), presented at the 80th Meeting of the Air Pollution Control Association, New York (June 1987)

"PM10 Modeling in the South Coast Air Basin of California" (with others), presented at the 79th Annual Meeting of the Air Pollution Control Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota (1986)

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"Review of Illinois 2014 SO<sub>2</sub> Ambient Air Monitoring Network", prepared on behalf of Sierra Club, San Francisco, CA (2015)

"Review of Missouri's 2014 SO<sub>2</sub> Ambient Air Monitoring Network", prepared on behalf of Sierra Club, San Francisco, CA (2014)

"Review of Michigan's 2014 SO<sub>2</sub> Ambient Air Monitoring Network", prepared on behalf of Sierra Club, San Francisco, CA (2014)

"Atmospheric Dispersion Modeling of Coal-Fired Power Plant Emissions in China", prepared on behalf of Greenpeace International (2013)

"Modeling the Air Quality Impacts of Shipping Emissions", prepared on behalf of Kelley Drye and Warren (2012)

"Cypress Creek Power Plant Modeling: Pollutant Deposition to the Chesapeake Bay and Sensitive Watersheds within the Commonwealth of Virginia," prepared on behalf of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Annapolis, MD (2009)

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"Base Case Carbon Monoxide Emission Inventory Development for Maricopa County, Arizona" (with others), SYSAPP-93/077, prepared for Maricopa Association of Governments, Phoenix, Arizona (1993)

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"Air Pollution Control Analyses for State Implementation Plan Revisions in Allegheny County," project report, Department of Engineering and Public Policy, Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (1978)

# **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

Systems Applications International	Manager, PM <sub>10</sub> and Visibility Program	1989–1997
South Coast Air Quality Management District	Air Quality Specialist	1985–1989
California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California	Research Assistant Laboratory Assistant	1979–1985 1979
Carnegie-Mellon University, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	Research Assistant	1978–1979