List of Requests for Comment
in EPA's proposed rule, "National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter,"
71 *Federal Register* 2620-2708 (January 17, 2006)

Primary Standards for Fine Particles:

Science and Risk Assessment

- Studies of fine particle components, sources, toxicity, chemistry (71 FR 2645; 71 FR 2653)
- Interpretation of epidemiological and toxicologic studies; methods for interpreting and addressing uncertainties (71 FR 2650)
- Interpretation of results of ACS-based long-term exposure studies, and other relevant research and alternative analytical approaches (71 FR 2652-3)
- Risk assessment methods and approaches for conducting a more formalized uncertainty analysis; the use of risk assessment information in setting standards (71 FR 2653)

24-Hour Standard

- Lower level of the 24-hour standard within the range of 30-35 $\mu g/m^3$ as recommended by CASAC (71 FR 2649-50; 71 FR 2653)
- Alternative approaches to selecting the level of the 24-hour standard and alternative levels of the 24-hour standard between the ranges of 35-65 $\mu g/m^3$ and 25-30 $\mu g/m^3$, along with supporting rationale (71 FR 2650; 71 FR 2653)

Annual Standard

- Revising form of annual $PM_{2.5}$ standard to base the standard on the highest community-oriented monitor in an area and to eliminate spatial averaging (71 FR 2647-8; 71 FR 2653; 71 FR 2685)
- Lower annual $PM_{2.5}$ standard level including the CASAC-recommended range of 14-13 $\mu g/m^3$ and supporting rationale (71 FR 2652; 71 FR 2653)
- Alternative approaches to interpreting scientific evidence and an annual standard level of 12 $\mu g/m^3$ (71 FR 2652; 71 FR 2653)

Secondary Standards for Fine Particles:

- Whether a separate secondary standard for $PM_{2.5}$ is warranted (71 FR 2681)
- A sub-daily (4- to 8-hour averaging time) $PM_{2.5}$ standard to address visibility impairment, within the range of 20-30 $\mu g/m^3$ and with a form within the range of the 92^{nd} to 98^{th} percentile (71 FR 2681; 71 FR 2685; 71 FR 2686)

Primary Standards for Coarse Particles:

General

- Alternative interpretations of health evidence and available policy responses (71 FR 2672)

Coarse Particle Indicator

- Approach of defining indicator in terms of particle size and categories of named sources, and classes of sources which should be included or excluded from indicator (71 FR 2668)
- Alternative approaches to selecting an unqualified $PM_{10-2.5}$ indicator (71 FR 2674)

24-Hour Standard

- Retaining the current (1987) 24-hour PM_{10} standard (150 $\mu g/m^3$ with a one expected exceedance form) with adjustment to avoid double-counting the $PM_{2.5}$ fraction; and also whether a 98^{th} percentile form should be considered for a 24-hour PM_{10} standard and the appropriate level for such a standard (71 FR 2673)
- Revoking 24-hour PM_{10} standard and not adopting any thoracic coarse particle standard, pending additional scientific review in next periodic review cycle (71 FR 2673)
- Recommendations for a 24-hour $PM_{10-2.5}$ standard at a level down to 50 $\mu g/m^3$ or below (71 FR 2674)
- Alternative approaches to selecting the level of a 24-hour $PM_{10-2.5}$ standard (71 FR 2674)

Equivalence

- Alternative approaches to identifying a level for the 24-hour $PM_{10-2.5}$ standard that is generally "equivalent" to the level of the 24-hour PM_{10} standard (71 FR 2671)
- Whether the 24-hour PM_{10} standard to which the 24-hour $PM_{10-2.5}$ standard should be "equivalent" is the 1987 PM_{10} standard or the 1997 PM_{10} standard (71 FR 2671)

Revocation/Retention of 24-Hour PM_{10} Standard

- Revoking and not replacing the 24-hour PM_{10} standard (71 FR 2674)
- Boundaries within which the current 24-hour PM_{10} standard should continue to apply for those areas required by the proposal to retain the current 24-hour PM_{10} standard until designations under the new $PM_{10-2.5}$ standard are complete (71 FR 2675)
- Whether the 24-hour PM_{10} standard should be retained in areas other than urbanized areas with population of at least 100,000 that contain a violating PM_{10} monitor; which specific areas should be required to retain the standard; and the criteria that should be used to determine which additional areas must retain the standard (71 FR 2675)
- Areas EPA is requiring to retain the 24-hour PM_{10} standard where it ought to be revoked (71 FR 2675)

Monitoring Requirements:

$PM_{2.5}$ Annual Standard

- Requiring a minimum of 11 valid samples per quarter if the calculated annual $PM_{2.5}$ standard design value exceeds the level of the standard, as opposed to the previously required minimum of 75% of scheduled samples (71 FR 2686)
- Data substitution logic for cases when the proposed 11 sample-per-quarter minimum is not met for the annual $PM_{2.5}$ standard (71 FR 2686)

$PM_{2.5}$ 24-Hour Standard

- 98^{th} percentile requirements for both regular and seasonal sampling schedules for the 24-hour $PM_{2.5}$ standard to be based on *applicable* number of samples, rather than *actual* number of samples (71 FR 2686)

$PM_{10-2.5}$ Standard

- Consideration of a $PM_{10-2.5}$ reference method or equivalent method based on the use of the virtual impactors to aerodynamically separate fine mode aerosols from coarse mode aerosols (71 FR 2689)
- Alternative $PM_{10-2.5}$ Federal Reference Methods (FRMs), specifically an FRM that would directly measure the coarse fraction of particles (71 FR 2689)
- Proposed 3 $\mu g/m^3$ lower concentration limit for the $PM_{10-2.5}$ FRM (71 FR 2691)

Other:

- Relevant studies that should be included in EPA's provisional assessment of new science on PM (71 FR 2625)
- All proposed judgments, conclusions, findings, and determinations described in preamble (71 FR 2625)
- Impacts on small entities (71 FR 2692)
- State and local officials' comments (71 FR 2693)
- Tribal officials' comments (71 FR 2693)
- Voluntary consensus standards (71 FR 2694)