

APCD Public Comments & the NAAQS

<https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-clean-air-act>

The Clean Air Act (CAA) is the comprehensive federal law that regulates air emissions from stationary and mobile sources. Sand and gravel mining and batching facilities are “Stationary Sources” while trucks that carry mined material to and from mining pits and cement processing sites are “Mobile Sources”.

Among other things, this law authorizes the EPA to establish **National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)**. The **NAAQS** is designed to protect public health and public welfare against the adverse effects of pollution and to regulate emissions of hazardous air pollutants.

2 types of NAAQS.

Primary Standards – DESIGNED TO PROTECT **PUBLIC HEALTH**

Primary standards protect Public Health, especially those of the children, the elderly and those with pre-existing medical conditions (eg. asthma, lung disease, kidney or heart disease) against the health hazards associated with exposure to pollution in form of dust or particulates (PM 2.5). Studies have shown that even ‘*safe levels*’ of air pollution can lead to higher death rates.

https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/890636?nlid=119820_4503&src=wnl_dne_171228_mscpedit&uac=96493CZ&impID=1520767&faf=1#vp_2

Secondary Standards – DESIGNED TO PROTECT **PUBLIC WELFARE**

Secondary standards protect the Public welfare against adverse effects of pollution on:

- Soils
- Water
- Crops
- Vegetation
- Animals
- Wildlife
- The weather & climate change (global warming)
- Visibility (smog or haze)
- DAMAGE TO PROPERTY
- TRANSPORTATION HAZARDS
- ECONOMIC VALUES
- PERSONAL COMFORT & WELL BEING (NOISE)