



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

# Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

Charles D. Baker  
Governor

Karyn E. Polito  
Lieutenant Governor

Kathleen A. Theoharides  
Secretary

Martin Suuberg  
Commissioner

## **Response to Comments On Proposed Amendments to Ambient Air Quality Standards for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

### **310 CMR 6.00**

Regulatory Authority:  
M.G.L. c. 111, Section 142D

June 14, 2019

On January 25, 2019, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) proposed amendments to 310 CMR 6.00 *Ambient Air Quality Standards for the Commonwealth* in accordance with Governor Baker's Executive Order 562. The amendments align the Massachusetts air quality standards with the current federal National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and update definitions for monitoring methods.

MassDEP held a public hearing in Boston on February 25, 2019 in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 30A. The comment period closed on March 8, 2019. MassDEP received two comments. MassDEP has summarized and responded to the comments below. MassDEP did not make any changes from the draft to final regulations.

1. **Comment:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the proposed revisions to 310 CMR 6.00 and finds the revisions to be consistent with the current NAAQS.

**Response:** MassDEP appreciates EPA's review of the amendments.

2. **Comment:** Please work to improve air quality standards such that they meet or exceed the Clean Air Act standards.

**Response:** MassDEP has adopted final standards that match the federal NAAQS under the Clean Air Act, which are designed to protect public health, including the most sensitive populations such as the elderly and children.