July 24, 2013

Honorable E. Christopher Abruzzo
Acting Secretary
Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 2063
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063

Re: Final-Form Rulemaking for Air Quality Title V Fee Amendments
(25 Pa. Code Chapter 127)

Dear Secretary Abruzzo:

On July 24, 2013, the Small Business Compliance Advisory Committee (Committee) discussed the final-form rulemaking to revise the base Title V annual emission fee in 25 Pa. Code Chapter 127, Subchapter I. Minor clarifying amendments are made for § 127.701. A revised base Title V annual emission fee of $85 is made for § 127.705, to be collected beginning with emissions occurring in calendar year 2013, due and payable by September 1, 2014, and for each calendar year thereafter.

It is the understanding of the Committee that this final-form amendment to the base Title V annual emission fee only affects major stationary sources. The Committee would like to work with the Department and the Environmental Quality Board on future rulemakings to develop a broader base of fees or other revenue options to address the costs of maintaining the Air Quality Program, especially as the Program impacts the small business community.

The Committee voted 4-3-1 to concur with the Department’s recommendation to present the final-form rulemaking amendments to the Environmental Quality Board for consideration for adoption and publication as final-form rulemaking.

Sincerely,

Dale I. Kaplan
Chair

cc: Joyce Epps, Director, PA DEP BAQ
    Dean Van Orden, Assistant Director, PA DEP BAQ
    Susan Hoyle, PA DEP BAQ
    Susan Foster, PA DEP BAQ