UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

FEB 24 2009

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

The Honorable Bill White
Mayor of Houston
901 Bagby, 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas, 77251-1562

Re: City of Houston's July 9, 2008, Request for Correction of Information under the Data Quality Act Relating to Emission Factors, Equations and Estimates from Petroleum Refineries and Chemical Plants

Dear Mayor White:

As the Designated Federal Official for Quality at EPA, I am responding to your January 22, 2009, letter to the Agency and the White House. EPA is committed to providing a substantive response to the City of Houston Request for Correction (RFC).

A dedicated team of senior engineers and program managers with expertise in emissions estimation methodologies are working diligently to develop this RFC response. Due to the complexity of the issues raised in the City of Houston RFC, an extensive internal dialogue about the response is underway. Since the comments in your recent letter are related to your original RFC, EPA will provide substantive responses to those comments in the RFC response.

As noted in our January 6, 2009, letter, EPA's goal is to send you a final response or status update within 90 days. Consistent with our practices to promote transparency, EPA will post your January 22, 2009, letter as related correspondence on the EPA Information Quality Guidelines Web site (http://epa.gov/quality/informationguidelines/iqg-list.html#08003).

After you receive the RFC response, EPA senior staff will be available to discuss the response with you. If you have additional questions or require further information on the status of the City of Houston RFC response, please contact Reggie Cheatham, Director, EPA Quality Staff at (202) 564-7713.

Sincerely,

Linda A. Travers

Linda A. Travers
Acting Assistant Administrator
and Chief Information Officer

cc: Carol Browner, Director, White House Energy and Climate Policy
Elizabeth Craig, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation