**Atmospheric
Chemistry
and Physics
Discussions**

Interactive comment on "Global mercury emissions to the atmosphere from anthropogenic and natural sources" *by* N. Pirrone et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

Received and published: 18 April 2010

The manuscript tries to quantify Hg emissions from natural and anthropogenic sources globally. The manuscript has several shortcomings such as: - poor bases for estimates and fraction factors used, due to poor data mining, - missing references to many of the figures presented, - some erraneous statements, - a couple of medium Hg emission sources left out such as bauxite working in spite of addressing other minor sources, - many references are presenting the same facts and apparently included due to connection with the authors, in some cases as policy documents, rather than on scientific evidence, - recent, important references omitted, having more reliable figures than the ones presented in this manuscript. The authors write at p. 4728 "It is very difficult to discuss the average content of mercury in the copper, zinc, lead, nickel and gold ores as very little information is available in the literature." However, if the authors had looked into other works than their own, they would have found more accurate data than

the ones they present. This manuscript does not contribute to advance science or our understanding and knowledge of Hg emissions further than is found in other actual articles. Rather, the main purpose if the article appears to be a forum of mutual respect rather than a sincere will to find basic facts, which may be contradictory to the authors earlier publications.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 10, 4719, 2010.

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper