Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 11, C4411–C4412, 2011
www.atmos-chem-phys-discuss.net/11/C4411/2011/

Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics Discussions

Interactive comment on "Impact of a large wildfire on water-soluble organic aerosol in a major urban area: the 2009 Station Fire in Los Angeles County" *by* A. Wonaschütz et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

Received and published: 6 June 2011

This paper is a descriptive characterization of fine particle water-soluble organic carbon (WSOC) measured in Los Angeles over an extended time period and includes large biomass burning events that periodically influenced the data set. It is essentially a companion to another a paper under review in ACPD (Hersey et al, ACPD 11, 5867-5933, 2011), which focused on mass spectrometer measurements of aerosol chemistry during the same period.

I would not characterize this paper as making a substantial contribution to scientific progress; it does not present new methods with regard to measurements or data interpretation. However, it does provide a useful description of an air quality parameter

of interest (WSOC) in the Los Angeles basin, a region where characterizing and understanding the sources and processing of air pollutants are important for health and climate forcing reasons. This paper, along with the companion Hersey PACO paper also provide results that may be useful to other recent air quality studies performed in LA. The paper is long, but well written and organized and the results worthy of being archived in a published document. I recommend publication.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 11, 12849, 2011.