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Interactive comment on “The Atmospheric Mercury Network: measurement and initial examination of an ongoing atmospheric mercury record across North America” by D. A. Gay et al.

Anonymous Referee #4

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The AMNet dataset is geographically widespread, extensive over time at some of the sites, and well QA/QC'd. As a result, the dataset is “setting the baseline” for all future studies, and is going to be potentially valuable for modeling the dry deposition of mercury to landscapes. The dataset will also likely grow as more sites come on board with AMNet, or other researchers contribute their data to the network database. I like that the authors added a short discussion of some of the potential issues surrounding the measurement of “GOM,” and possibly GEM and PBM2.5, with the Tekran speciation units. However, this discussion is currently biased in favour of the Tekrans, and as a result, I would like to see this discussion fleshed out a little more. As they clearly now

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state, this is an area of active research, and understanding some of the potential issues of using operationally defined GOM concentrations (and PMB2.5) to quantify dry deposition needs to be fully resolved.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 13, 10521, 2013.

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13, C3143–C3144, 2013

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