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Interactive comment on “Evaluating the effects of China’s pollution control on inter-annual trends and uncertainties of atmospheric mercury emissions” by Y. Zhao et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 23 November 2014

I think this paper provides some new insights on mercury emissions to the atmosphere from China and the authors describe in detail the challenges and solutions to the challenges faced when obtaining accurate emissions estimates. Some of the language of the paper is making it difficult to interpret the findings, such as the author’s statement on line 26 of page 26804: “This is attributed mainly to swiftly increased penetration of advanced manufacturing and pollutant control technologies.” Are the authors saying that the Hg emission factors are coming down because more industrial facilities are adopting pollution control technologies? The manuscript could benefit from editing for English language correctness.

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I cannot detect any errors in the methodology of the researchers, nor any conclusions that are not well supported by the data.

I do however, wonder if the detailed treatment of the topic might be better off in a more suitable journal.

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 14, 26803, 2014.

ACPD

14, C9433–C9434, 2014

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