

Reply to Comments from: Anonymous (Referee #1)

This is a straightforward paper that provides details on trends in measured atmospheric mercury (Hg) at Cape Point and focuses on the changing trend in the last decade compared to the prior measurements. The paper concludes that the trends found at Cape Point are consistent with what is being found at other locations where long term measurements are being made, either of atmospheric gaseous mercury or wet deposition. I find no flaws in the paper and it is a straightforward analysis of the data which shows a clear trend. It adds to the dataset on this and supports an interesting global trend. My comment relates mostly to the paper and how it is written. Given the straightforward nature of the information I would combine the results and discussions together because as the paper is now written it is repetitive and too long. Also, there is no need for a conclusion as the results are straightforward. I would say that the paper could be reduced by 2 pages if the authors do this. I would make for a better read. The analytical methods are well known and the authors have previously published and it is clear the data is of high quality.

Reply: *We followed the recommendations of both reviewers to shorten the paper by merging the sections “Results” and “Discussion” in the revised manuscript.*