

## **Law's Lack of Rigor Criticized.**

Fernando Tabet, an environmental lawyer with the Tabet Advogados law firm, told BNA May 14 that “the Rio de Janeiro state climate law is less rigorous than the one by neighboring São Paulo state because it neither sets greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets for the state itself nor plans to set them for specific state industries.”

The São Paulo state law (No. 13,798) set a target to reduce state greenhouse gas emissions 20 percent by 2020 from 2005 levels. The state is believed to be the first in a developing country to set a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target (32 INER 972, 10/28/09).

São Paulo state plans to set emissions reduction limits for a wide range of sectors by the end of 2010 or early 2011, especially the industrial electricity generating and cargo transport sectors, where emissions are particularly high. The state law provides punishments, including denial of operational license renewal for entities that do not reduce emissions to state-set levels.

Carlos Bocuhy, the head of Proam, a São Paulo- based environmental group that focuses on industrial pollution, told BNA May 14 that “the São Paulo climate law is more coercive than the Rio state law in its pledge to punish companies that don’t cut emissions and because the emission reduction targets it set for the state and plans to set for specific sectors are geared toward getting results.”