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Acknowledgement Request: The AVHRR AOT CDR used in this study was acquired from NOAA's National Climatic Data Center (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov>). This CDR was originally developed by Xuepeng Zhao and colleagues for the NOAA's CDR Program.

Citation Request: Zhao, T. X.-P., I. Laszlo, W. Guo, A. Heidinger, C. Cao, A. Jelenak, D. Tarpley, J. Sullivan, Study of Long-term Trend in Aerosol Optical Thickness Observed from Operational AVHRR Satellite Instrument, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 113, D07201, doi:10.1029/2007JD009061, 2008.

* On Being a Scientist: A Guide to Responsible Conduct in Research: 3rd Edition (2009), Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy, National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and Institute of Medicine, 82 pages, ISBN-10: 0-309-11970-7. Available for download at: http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12192.