

Final Minutes



Ambient Monitoring Strategic Planning Team Meeting #31

Date: Tuesday, January 15, 2008
Time: 9:30 – 3:30
Place: CASA, 10th floor, 10035 108 Street

In attendance:

Name	Stakeholder group
Bettina Mueller	Alberta Environment
Bob Myrick	Alberta Environment
Brian Free	CASA
Brian Wiens	Environment Canada
Chris Severson-Baker (after 10am)	Pembina Institute
David Spink	Prairie Acid Rain Coalition
Ian Peace	Residents for Appropriate Power Industry Development
Ken Omotani	TransAlta
Roxanne Pettipas (after 10am)	ConocoPhillips
Kerra Chomlak	CASA
Robyn Jacobsen	CASA

With regrets:

Name	Stakeholder group
David McCoy	Husky
Findlay MacDermid	RAPID
James Vaughan	ERCB
Keith Murray	Alberta Forest Products
Kevin Warren	Parkland Airshed
Mike Zemanek	Alberta Health and Wellness
Michael Bisaga	Lakeland Industry and Community Assoc.

Bob Myrick chaired the meeting, which convened at 9:30 a.m. Quorum was achieved.

Action Items:

Action items	Who	Due
9.2: Brian Free to load team information to the CASA website and provide the working group with access information.	Brian Free	On-going
29.3: Post a copy of Kirk Andries presentation on CASA website. (Get permission to post on web.)	Brian Free	ASAP
29.5: Revise steps used to calculate costs to include the extra costs of sampling in remote locations for the passive network.	Bob Myrick	By next meeting
31.1: Draft a recommendation for an emissions inventory	David Spink	By next meeting

Action items	Who	Due
31.2: Contact Carolyn Kolebaba to ensure an AAMD&C representative can attend the workshop	Brian Free	ASAP
31.3 Revise the wording of the funding principle about diffuse anthropogenic emissions.	Kerra and Brian Free	By next meeting
31.4 Revise the Funding topic sheet based on discussion. Send to the team.	Brian Free	By next meeting
31.5 Send <i>editorial</i> comments on all of the topic sheets to Brian.	All	By next meeting
31.6 Form a sub-group to determine options for a cost apportionment funding formula for a provincial air monitoring network.	Ken Omotani, Bob Myrick, Ian Peace, airshed representative	By next meeting
31.7 Send the numbers and locations of monitors to the funding formula sub-group.	Bob Myrick	By January 18
31.8 Send Bob Myrick any other questions/comments for Dr. Cape.	All	By January 28
31.9 Talk to Dr. Cape about his availability and cost to attend the workshop.	Bob Myrick	By next meeting
31.10 Send invitations and book a venue for the workshop.	Brian Free	By next meeting
31.11 Review and revise the emissions inventory recommendation based on the team's discussion and distribute it to the team.	Brian Free	By next meeting.

1) Administration

- a. Introductions
- b. Approve of the agenda and meeting purpose
 - o Agenda was amended and approved by consensus.. The CFO team's recommendations and a review of the Strategic Plan were not addressed at this meeting.
- c. Approve minutes from Meeting #30, Dec 17
 - o Minutes were approved by consensus.
- d. Review action items from Meeting #30

Action Items	Who	When
9.2: Brian Free to load team information to the CASA website and provide the working group with access information.	Brian Free	On-going
27.3: Ian Peace to prepare a table of emissions sources and associated parameters that should be monitored. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Info is difficult to obtain. Would like the province to develop an air emissions inventory.</i> • <i>GOA is developing an inventory for individual sources.</i> • <i>Some of this info is available in NAPS.</i> • <i>We can look at where the gaps are.</i> Action Item 31.1: David Spink will draft a recommendation for	Ian Peace	By next meeting

Action Items	Who	When
<i>an emissions inventory.</i>		
29.3: Circulate a copy of Kirk Andries presentation to the team. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Document is too large to e-mail. Brian Free will post it to CASA website. Brian will check with Kirk for permission to post on web. 	Brian Free	ASAP
29.4: Revise the table in section 6.4 to include costs related to data management, quality control, administration, and equipment replacement.	Bob Myrick	Done
29.5: Circulate the steps used to calculate costs to the team; Kevin and AENV staff will review the calculation methodology. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bob sent to Kevin Warren and Harry Benders. Harry provided some adjustments. Bob to revise to include the extra cost of sampling in remote locations for the passive network, e.g. towers to monitor above forest canopy, use of helicopters. 	Bob Myrick, Kevin Warren	Carry forward
29.6: Draft basic principles that will help airsheds ensure sustainable funding and circulate to Bob M. and then to the team.	Brian Wiens	Done. See agenda #2.
29.7: Draft a recommendation, including timelines, for a new funding formula to redistribute monitoring costs more equitably.	Kerra Chomlak, Brian Free	Done. See agenda #2.
29.8: Test the idea of the GOA paying the full cost of expanding the monitoring network. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AENV is still discussing this. It is unlikely that they will pay the full cost, but will still be a major funder. 	Bob Myrick	Done
30.1: Check the CASA calendar and others will advise Brian whether the March 19 workshop date conflicts with any other major events. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The March 19 date is confirmed. Action Item 31.2: To ensure AAMD&C participation, Brian will contact Carolyn Kolebaba to ensure a representative can attend the workshop	Brian Free, all	Done
30.2: Write up the proposed funding principles with one example included. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ken is waiting to hear government's position. 	Ken Omotani	On-going.
30.3: Determine the cost of monitoring for each parameter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific parameter could be funded by the specific industry. Industry funding will depend on what is being monitored. (i.e. they will pay if it's something they are emitting.) 	Bob Myrick	Done.
30.3: Revise the pre-ambule to the objectives in the <i>Vision, Principles, etc</i> topic summary.	Brian Free, Kim Sanderson	Done
30.4 Add the relevant recommendations from the report to each topic summary.	Brian Free, Kim Sanderson	Done
30.5: Provide initial comments on topic summaries to Brian.	All	Done.
30.6: Review part 2 – The Strategic Plan in the current draft	All	Done.

Action Items	Who	When
report.		
30.7: Distribute the latest (Dec. 7) draft to the Team for reviewing purposes.	Brian Free	Done

2) Funding for the Monitoring Network

- The team reviewed the funding principles.
- It was suggested that the airsheds need to be present for this type of conversation. It would also be helpful to know if they have their own principles for funding.
- It was suggested that the team should describe their rationale for the principles so that they are defensible into the future.

Funding principles

1. *Costs will be apportioned in a fair and equitable manner*

2. *Large emitters will pay directly to fund the system*

- The team agreed that large emitters should pay directly to fund the system.
 - But how do we access the significant emitters that may not be “large”?
 - In addition, certain emissions could be weighted based on their toxicity, not only their quantity.
- The team agreed that they need to focus on developing ‘principles’ and that the funding formula should be judgement free and non-prescriptive.
- Therefore, we shouldn’t be prioritizing pollutants or negotiating the cost of monitoring, but rather apportioning the costs to whoever emitted the pollutant. e.g. there are 6 sources of SO₂ in an airshed. The cost will be attributed based on the proportion of each source’s emissions.
- This translates into the idea that different emitters will pay different costs based on regional variations.
- The team agreed to add the principle that “the emitter pays” to the first funding principle about fair and equitable apportionment of costs.
- It was suggested that the team needs to develop some steps for determining what is “fair and equitable”.
- The team agreed to delete the second bullet of the funding principles regarding ‘large emitters’.

Funding principle 3. Diffuse anthropogenic emissions will be covered by the provincial government;

- Right now, we have no clear way of identifying these “diffuse anthropogenic emitters”, but the government needs to develop a threshold so that the diffuse emitters do start paying once they become significant emitters.
- Perhaps the team should make a recommendation that the government needs to develop a system that ensures all emitters pay. (i.e. how to deal with diffuse emissions.)
- The team agreed by consensus to the intent of this principle. Kerra and Brian will wordsmith.

Action Item 31.3: Kerra and Brian F. will revise the wording of the funding principle about diffuse anthropogenic emissions.

Funding principle 4. Data users whose specific needs require additional system resources will pay the costs associated with meeting those needs;

- The team agreed to delete this principle. It was clarified around the table that if a data user wanted a specific report, they will have to fund it themselves.

Funding principle 5. Provisions will be included to ensure long-term funding and reward those who reduce their emissions

- Sounds like we would reduce monitoring requirements when there is a reduction in emissions.
- The team agreed to revised wording that broadly signalled the intent of the principles, but did not specify what was meant. The team can determine what “reward” means at a later stage.

Funding principle 6. Flexibility for airsheds to meet their own unique needs and acknowledge previously negotiated funding agreements

- This principle implies that airsheds could establish their own specific funding formula, using this team’s principles/recommendations as a guide.
- It was suggested that this team needs to work on developing an accounting mechanism. This work would go on the Cost and Funding topic sheet.

Revised Funding Principles

- 1) Costs will be apportioned in a fair and equitable manner based on the principles that the emitter pays.
 - (Note: costs = monitoring, data management, etc.)
- 2) Emitters pay in proportion to the costs of the monitoring system that results from their emissions.
- 3) Diffuse anthropogenic emissions, such as residences and on-road vehicles, will be covered by the provincial government.
 - (Note: We will recommend that the government develop a system for determining how to collect from small emitters, e.g. agricultural operations.)
- 4) Provisions will be included to ensure long-term funding.
- 5) Those who reduce their emissions should be rewarded.
- 6) Flexibility for airsheds to meet their own unique needs and acknowledge previously negotiated funding agreements.

Additional Thoughts

- We need to ensure that we have a way to fairly and equitably attribute costs.
- We need to identify thresholds for large emitters.
- We need an accounting system to track costs and payments.
- We need a mechanism to ensure participation in the systems.
- We need a system for rewards and recognition.

There was further discussion about the Funding Topic Sheet

- The table of current costs of the monitoring network should be moved to the Network Topic Sheet.
- The first recommendation should include all the principles.
- The second recommendation should say that AENV will be the primary funder of the system. The sub-group will provide a spreadsheet that can be used as background information for requesting government funding. (Bob noted that he can’t commit to this recommendation yet, but is working on it.)

Action Item 31.4: Brian F. will revise the Funding topic sheet based on the team's discussion. This will be sent to the team.

Action Item 31.5: The team may send their editorial comments on all of the topic sheets to Brian, but should bring substantive comments to the next meeting.

- The team decided that they want to form a sub-group to develop a funding formula as part of their final report. The funding formula will use the principles as a guide.
- The sub-group will develop some options to help move towards a consensus.
- The formula should be high-level, not detailed.
- The sub-group is tasked with determining a funding formula by airshed for additional monitoring stations.
- In addition, it should be taken into account that the World Health Organization estimates 20 – 40% of the cost should be allocated to quality control.
- The team can extend their deadlines to accommodate this work, if necessary.

Action Item 31.6: Ken Omotani, Bob Myrick, Ian Peace, and an airshed representative will form a sub-group to determine options for a cost apportionment funding formula for a provincial air monitoring network.

Action Item 31.7: Bob will send the numbers and locations of monitors to the funding formula sub-group by January 18. They will have a conference call next week to discuss next steps.

3. Dr. Neil Cape's Draft Report

- It was noted that the report is not finished yet, but lays a good foundation for the final report.
- The team would like to see some explicit recommendations on what areas of the ambient monitoring network require improvement.
- The draft report hasn't looked at all the areas outlined in our Terms of Reference. We still need to see similar work to what has been completed for the rest of our monitoring objectives.
- Bob will try to arrange a conference call to discuss some of our issues. Interested team members are welcome to participate. Issues to discuss with Dr. Cape include:
 - Gaps in the report based on what was requested in the Terms of Reference.
 - What assumptions he has made about health.
 - Recommendations on what areas to focus on and where our gaps are.
 - The Alberta context – we generally deal with locally generated emissions vs. long-range transport.
 - Alberta has a different spatial scale than the jurisdictions Dr. Cape may be used to dealing with.

Action Item 31.8: The team should send Bob Myrick any other questions/comments for Dr. Cape before January 28.

- The team expressed interest in inviting Dr. Cape to their workshop. It was suggested that their may not be time at the workshop, but that we could arrange a keynote address prior to the workshop.

Action Item 31.9: Bob Myrick will talk to Dr. Cape about his availability and cost to attend the workshop.

- If Dr. Cape can't attend the workshop in person, we may suggest that he video- or tele-conference.

4. Workplan

- The team reviewed the work plan to ensure that their work is still on track.

Action Item 31.10: The invitations to workshop will be sent the week on January 20-25. Brian will work on booking a venue for the workshop.

- The team decided to have its next meeting on January 28 in Calgary. Roxanne offered Conoco-Phillips as the host.

5. Other Business

Recommendation on Emissions Inventory

- During a break, David Spink drafted a recommendation (Action Item 31.1) suggesting that the province develop a comprehensive provincial inventory of all emissions sources that affect provincial air quality. It was distributed at the meeting.
- Source characterization will help to provide information on these emissions.
- Include a caveat on the pie charts: "These pollutants are known to be emitted but are not frequently measured. There is no readily available source of this information."

Action Item 31.11: Brian Free will review and revise this recommendation based on the team's discussion and distribute it to the team.

6. CASA Update

- Brian Free gave a brief overview of the progress of other CASA project teams.
- Ian Peace noted that the Indoor Air Quality Project Team that is planning CASA's next Science Symposium team needs an industry representative. Please forward the names of potential candidates.

7. Next meeting date(s)

Date	Time	Place
January 28, 2008		
End of February		
Early April		

Agenda Items for next meeting

- Review recommendations on each of the topic sheets.
- Update from the funding formula sub-group.

8. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.