



# Minutes

## Odour Assessment Task Group, Meeting #7

Date: July 25, 2014  
Time: 9am – 10am  
Place: Teleconference

### In attendance:

Name	Stakeholder group
Ron Axelson	Intensive Livestock Working Group
Phyllis Bielawski	Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
Ike Edeogu	Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development
Kim Johnson	CAPP (Shell)
Gerald Palanca	Alberta Energy Regulator
David Spink	Prairie Acid Rain Coalition
Abena Twumasi-Smith	WBEA
Celeste Dempster	CASA

### Action Items:

Action Items	Who	Due
7.1: Celeste will contact the consultants to emphasize the need for fulsome referencing in the next version of the odour assessment draft report.	Celeste	ASAP.

## 1. Administrative Items

Participants introduced themselves and were welcomed to the meeting. Quorum was achieved.

The agenda and meeting objectives were approved.

## 2. Overview and Discussion

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the timing of the development of the odour assessment report.

On July 16<sup>th</sup>, the Odour Assessment Task Group met with the consultants to review the latest draft of the report and provide comment. In the wake of this meeting a question was raised about the relationship between odour assessment tools (specifically olfactometry and odour units) and potential regulation development (specifically the recommendation from the Alberta Energy Regulator Peace River panel report that: “ESRD assess the feasibility of defining an ambient odour objective for Alberta based on a perception threshold.”) and how this may impact the timing of the development of our report.

This issue also relates to the work of the newly formed Enforcement/Role of Regulation Task Group. ESRD has requested that the Enforcement/Role of Regulation assist with the implementation of the above recommendation. This task group has reviewed ESRD’s request for alignment with its workplan and determined the task group will be able to provide ESRD with some relevant information to assist with the feasibility assessment of a possible perception/sensory odour objective.

The issue of timing relates to whether an odour regulation must be in place before the odour assessment report can be completed, so as to align with any possible new regulation.

The task group discussed with highlights as follows:

- The odour assessment report identifies a variety of tools that can be used for odour assessment which includes olfactometry. Tools that apply in a regulatory sense will be looked at by the Enforcement/Role of Regulation Task Group.
- The odour assessment report will not put emphasis on a particular path for Alberta.
- Making regulatory recommendations goes beyond the mandate of this group.
- There was a concern that tools may not be as useful without a regulatory limited/target and that without regulatory backing the necessary infrastructure would not be available to support the use of tools like olfactometry.
- Tools have also been used to evaluate best management practices without being related to a threshold.
- Many of the tools described in the report are being used in Alberta without a limit being in place and will continue to be used.
- A particular regulatory approach does drive the development of infrastructure and investment.
- Developing a regulatory framework is the purview of ESRD but the task group and OMT can provide information that helps with this process and decision.
- In terms of Alberta Ambient Air Quality Objectives (AAAQO), there are limits that are based on odour perception. Does ESRD plan to revisit these after completing the feasibility assessment?
  - ESRD was not able to provide a comment at this time. It was noted, however, that the AAAQO stakeholder advisory group could make a recommendation to ESRD to this effect.
  - Expert testimony from the Peace River Panel stated that the current AAAQO approach was inadequate and that the use of odour units is currently the most successful perception-based method.
- If ESRD had insight about the direction Alberta is headed, it would be useful information for the task group.
- ESRD will also be doing work on the feasibility assessment in parallel with the Enforcement/Role of Regulation Task Group and will share information to ensure transparency.
- ESRD will wait for the work of the Enforcement/Role of Regulation Task Group to be completed and incorporate it into their work. ESRD will be provided with draft reports as they are developed. ESRD is expected to complete this recommendation by the end of 2014.

The task group determined that the original timing for the odour assessment task group report as described at meeting #6 is acceptable.

Task	Timeline
Randy and Anna will prepare two keys for the task group to review (one source and one ambient).	Within two weeks – July 30, 2014
The task group will review the keys and provide comment.	One week
Randy and Anna will prepare and deliver a presentation for the OMT that provides an overview of the report (high level), explain the logic of the components of the report, and present the two keys that are ready.	August 28, 2014 (Calgary)
Randy and Anna will prepare draft 3 of the report and the remaining keys	Early September 2014
The task group will meet to review draft three of the report	Late September
Randy and Anna will finalize the report	Late September/early October

***Action Item 7.1: Celeste will contact the consultants to emphasize the need for fulsome referencing in the next version of the odour assessment draft report.***

The meeting adjourned at 9:55pm.