

# Minutes



## **PM and Ozone Implementation Team meeting #18**

**Date:** Wednesday, November 28, 2011

**Time:** 10:00am to 3:30pm

### **In attendance:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Stakeholder group</b>
Sara Barss (by phone AM only)	TransCanada
Elise Bieche	CAPP
Jill Bloor	Calgary Region Airshed Zone
Claude Chamberland (by phone)	Shell Canada Energy
Andrew Clayton	Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
Long Fu	Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
Marc Huot	Pembina Institute
Ahmed Idriss	Capital Power Corporation
Rachel Mintz	Environment Canada
Bob Myrick	Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
Beth Nanni	The Lung Association
Ludmilla Rodriguez	Alberta Health Services
Karina Thomas	Alberta Health
Kevin Warren	Parkland Airshed Management Zone
Kathy Acheson (AM only)	Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
Laura Blair (AM only)	Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
Celeste Dempster	CASA

### **With regrets:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Stakeholder group</b>
Brad Park	City of Calgary
Keith Murray	Alberta Forest Products Association
Crystal Parrell	Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
Mike Pawlicki	Lafarge Canada Inc.
Darcy Walberg	Agrium

Bob Myrick chaired the meeting which began at 10:05am. Quorum was achieved.

### **Action Items:**

<b>Action items</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Update as of 7 Dec 2012</b>
18.1: Celeste will work with NGO team members to nominate a new NGO co-chair.	Celeste, NGO members	Beth Nanni will take up the NGO co-chair.
18.2: Celeste will work with industry team members to nominate a new industry co-chair.	Celeste, industry members	Claude Chamberland will stay on as the industry co-chair.

18.3: Celeste will send out Kathy Acheson's powerpoint presentation for the information of PM and Ozone Implementation team members.	Celeste	Sent out with the minutes from this meeting.
18.4: Celeste will follow-up with Kathy Acheson to determine if there are any documents relating to the regulatory backstop that can be shared with the team.	Celeste	Kathy provided a document which was sent out with the minutes from this meeting.
18.5: Celeste will send out Andrew Clayton's presentation to the team.	Celeste	Sent out with the minutes from this meeting.

## 1) Administrative Items

Participants were welcomed to the meeting and introduced themselves.

The team approved the agenda and meeting objectives with the addition of an agenda item before lunch for the airsheds to provide an update on the status of current PM and O<sub>3</sub> Management Plans. The team also agreed to take 30 minutes for lunch rather than one hour.

The team realized that there was no record of the last meeting which was a teleconference on September 30<sup>th</sup> 2011. Going forward there will be no minutes for meeting #17.

The team briefly discussed team membership. In the time since the team last met, Myles Kitagawa, the NGO co-chair has left the team. Claude Chamberland, the industry co-chair, has also expressed his intent to step down as co-chair.

*Action Item 18.1: Celeste will work with NGO team members to nominate a new NGO co-chair.*

*Action Item 18.2: Celeste will work with industry team members to nominate a new industry co-chair.*

## 2) CASA Update

Celeste provided an update on current CASA activities:

- The next CASA Board meeting will be December 13<sup>th</sup> in Edmonton.
- Based on stakeholder discussions and a preliminary literature review and jurisdictional comparison, a Statement of Opportunity on Odour Management was presented to the CASA Board at their September 27 Board meeting. The Board approved the formation of a working group to develop the project charter. Representatives from industry and non-governmental organizations have been identified. As soon as membership on the working group is complete, an initial meeting will be convened.
- Throughout August and September, informal discussions with previous Vehicle Emissions team members and relevant content experts provided insight into the potential direction for the development of a Statement of Opportunity on Transportation Emissions Management. The Statement of Opportunity is currently being developed and will be shared with interested parties for feedback before being forwarded to the CASA Board. The Board will receive a status update at the December Board meeting.

### 3) Overview of Team Work to Date

Since it has been over a year since the team last met, Celeste provided an overview of recent team work to provide context for today's discussions.

The PM and Ozone Implementation Team was established in 2006 based on a recommendation from the implementers of the CASA PM and Ozone Framework (2003) to create a PM and Ozone Implementation Team that would assess and report on progress in implementing the Framework.

In 2011, the PM and Ozone Implementation Team created two Lessons Learned documents. The first document, dated 10 February, provided observations with respect to the technical elements of framework design and captured the experiences of a multistakeholder team. The document was submitted to the CCME and Air Management Committee (AMC) to contribute to their discussions on the design of the national AQMS.

The second Lessons Learned document, dated 30 September 2011, reflected the comments of the PM and Ozone Implementation Team on the *Proposed Guidance Document for the Achievement Determination of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and Ozone CAAQS*. It was also submitted to the CCME and AMC to contribute to their discussions on the design of the national AQMS.

The last team meeting was a teleconference on 30 September 2011. During the last few meetings of 2011 there were two discussion topics that were of high interest to the team in addition to the work on the Lessons Learned documents:

1. The National AQMS: The team received several updates on the national AQMS and spent time considering the policy itself and the implications of the policy for the team and the Framework.
2. Terms of Reference: The team spent time discussing progress made towards completing their Terms of Reference. The team found that most of the recommendations under the Framework have been completed and that, with the development of the national AQMS, there is much uncertainty going forward. Therefore, there was a need to look closely at the team's Terms of Reference and the future of the team. The Terms of Reference also requires that the need for continuation of the team be assessed every 2 years.

### 4) National AQMS

Kathy Acheson from ESRD provided a powerpoint presentation on the national AQMS which was followed by a question and answer session. The team was also joined by Laura Blair from ESRD who provided additional information during the question and answer session.

On October 11, 2012, the CCME announced that jurisdictions (with the exception of Quebec) agreed to begin implementing the new national AQMS.

Collaboration and accountability are the foundations of the system; the new Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) will be the drivers of the system and set the bar for outdoor air quality management across the country. The CAAQS will be established as objectives under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act 1999. Standards for fine PM and Ozone have been developed and work has begun to develop standards for NO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub>. Alberta influenced the development of the framework for PM and Ozone seen under the new CAAQS. The CAAQS will replace and be more

stringent than the Canada-wide Standards (CWS) for PM and Ozone. The CAAQS for PM and Ozone will come into effect in 2015 and detailed information for provinces, territories and stakeholders on methodologies, procedures, and requirements that need to be satisfied to determine the achievement status of the CAAQS in air zones can be found in the *Guidance Document for the Achievement Determination for the CAAQS for Fine Particulate Matter and Ozone* (GDAD).

There are four mechanisms within the national AQMS:

- Airshed coordination
- Air zone management
- Industrial emission requirements (BLIERS)
- Mobile sources

Canada has been divided into six regional airsheds which will help to manage transboundary airflow. Alberta is found in the Prairie regional airshed which also includes north-eastern BC and western Saskatchewan. Under the national AQMS, all areas in a province or territory must be delineated by an air zone. In Alberta, these divisions will fall along the LUF boundaries with the north and south Peace areas being combined. This will result in six air zones within Alberta. ESRD has taken the lead role to determine how current airsheds (there are currently 9) will be incorporated into air zone management. ESRD met with airsheds in September 2012 to provide information on the delineation of air zones and plans to meet again with the airsheds in 2013 to continue discussions on air quality management in the national AQMS. Some of Alberta's current airsheds fall across several of the LUF-delineated air zones. ESRD does not anticipate that alignment will be an issue. For example, the Capital Air Partnership is a collaborative effort between three airsheds. Management plans will focus on the area in exceedance and actions will be targeted to the area that is creating the issue. While Alberta had pre-existing airsheds, this was not the case for other provinces/territories who created their air zones from scratch. For example, Saskatchewan has divided the province into five air zones and Ontario into two.

The Base-level Industrial Emission Requirements (BLIERS) are intended to ensure that all significant industrial sources meet a good base-level of performance, regardless of where they are located. BLIERS apply to new and existing major industrial sectors and some equipment types. They are focused on NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, VOCs and PM. The system assumes that provinces/territories will be the front line regulators and that they will use their own instruments to implement BLIERS within their jurisdictions. Provinces/territories may choose to apply more stringent measures beyond the BLIERS if they choose. The system provides a federal backstop to regulating the BLIERS to minimize regulatory duplication. Federal regulations would only be triggered if a facility emits above the BLIERS for two consecutive years. The team had additional questions regarding the regulatory backstop and Kathy volunteered to investigate if there were any additional documents on the subject that could be provided to the team. There is still work left to be done in the development of the BLIERS.

Management of mobile sources is a cross-ministry effort within the GoA. Action on mobile sources will also be a big part of air zone management.

While Ministers agreed to implement the system (except Quebec), there is still considerable collaborative work to be done. Next steps for the AQMS include:

- Publish CAAQS
- Start larger airshed coordination and reporting

- Work collaboratively to resolve outstanding BLIERs

Alberta aims to have only one AQMS for the province so is moving to adapt the Alberta system to incorporate the national AQMS. Implementation begins in 2013 with continued stakeholder collaboration on air zone management and developing management tools and protocols; initial work to strengthen air quality management in air zones where air quality needs are highest; and implementation of instruments to apply the first BLIERs. Reporting on the AQMS will begin in 2014 with the reporting of air quality in air zones against CAAQS (based on 2011-2013 data). The rationale was to start reporting in 2014 so that provinces and territories would know where they stand before the achievement date of 2015. The team expressed concern that the CAAQS would come into effect before all the LUF management plans were completed. While GoA is still working out the details, this will not be a problem. If a LUF region requires a management plan then one will be developed.

***Action Item 18.3: Celeste will send out Kathy Acheson's powerpoint presentation for the information of PM and Ozone Implementation team members.***

***Action Item 18.4: Celeste will follow-up with Kathy Acheson to determine if there are any documents relating to the regulatory backstop that can be shared with the team.***

## **5) Update on Current PM and Ozone Management Plans**

Kevin Warren (PAMZ) and Jill Bloor (CRAZ) provided a short update on the PM and Ozone Management Plans for their respective airsheds. There was no representative on hand to provide an update for the Capital Air Partnership (CAP).

### PAMZ:

- PAMZ is in the fourth year of implementation for their Ozone Management Plan.
- The Plan has short, medium, long-term and continuous goals. All the short-term goals have been completed and work continues on the medium-term goals which are more action-oriented.
- PAMZ relies on its members and stakeholders to implement its Ozone Management Plan. A recent success story is the City of Red Deer's creation of an Environmental Master Plan which contains hard air quality targets. PAMZ anticipates that the GoA merger of SRD and Environment will be an asset to implementation.
- It was noted that PMAZ hasn't exceeded the Ozone trigger in several years but this could change under the CAAQS. PAMZ has recently exceeded the PM management trigger. In September, the PAMZ Board chose to defer its decision on this item in anticipation that it will probably be ESRD who takes the lead on this issue.
- PAMZ will provide an Ozone Management Plan report in their Annual Report.

## CRAZ:

- CRAZ created its PM and Ozone Management Plan in 2008 and implementation has been ongoing since 2009.
- Last year, CRAZ created an all source emission database; this year, CRAZ has been undertaking geospatial subsector work; and next year, CRAZ plans to undertake sensitivity work.
- A central pillar for CRAZ is education and it has been focusing on transportation. CRAZ is undertaking a pilot project in Cochrane which could then be expanded into other parts of the airshed. Transportation emissions are an ongoing issue within CRAZ.

## **6) Review Progress Made Towards Terms of Reference/Future of the Team**

The team discussed progress made towards completing the Terms of Reference taking into account the information shared during the update on the national AQMS. The team also discussed what advice should be given to the CASA Board as to the future of the team.

During the last few team meetings of 2011, the team discussed progress made towards completing the Terms of Reference. During this discussion, the team noted that the majority of the recommendations from the Framework have been met and the majority of the Terms of Reference have been completed. The team also noted at this time that there were many uncertainties with respect to the development of the national AQMS which needed to be considered.

Since these meetings, there is new information available on the national AQMS. As stated during Kathy Acheson's presentation, on October 11, 2012, the CCME announced that jurisdictions (with the exception of Quebec) agreed to begin implementing the new national AQMS. Based on this understanding, the team agreed that the question to consider first was not 'Are there any outstanding issues from the Terms of Reference' but rather 'Given the new national AQMS, is the Terms of Reference still relevant?'

The CAAQS are modeled on the CASA PM and Ozone Framework. The team remarked that they should feel proud that their work to successfully implement the CASA Framework in Alberta has contributed to the adoption of the Framework at the national level. The Canada-wide Standards, that are used in the Framework, will be replaced by the CAAQS and new, more stringent standards have already been developed for PM and Ozone. After consideration of the CAAQS, the team agreed that the national AQMS supersedes the CASA Framework and as such the Terms of Reference for this team have also been superseded and are no longer relevant. Given the reasoning above, the team agreed to present a recommendation to the Board to disband the team.

The team also noted that there is much PM and Ozone expertise that has accumulated at CASA during the life of the PM and Ozone Project Team and the PM and Ozone Implementation Team which could be useful during the implementation of the national AQMS. During the transition from the CASA PM and Ozone Framework to the CAAQS, there may be opportunities to share this expertise and provide input to the GoA. Examples of such opportunities could include providing technical advice and providing input into a GoA Jurisdictional Implementation Plan. As such, the team agreed to put forward a second recommendation to the Board which states that: during the transition period to the CAAQS, CASA could convene one-off groups to provide specific advice on

PM and Ozone to the GoA if requested. This would not be a standing group but rather would come together to provide targeted advice over a shorter timeframe. The membership of the group would be tailored based on the advice/input being requested.

The team also remarked that much successful work has been accomplished through this team and the team has demonstrated the value of multistakeholder processes.

The team agreed that the next steps are to create a final report that includes the two recommendations and the rationale behind them.

## **7) Hear Final Results of 2008-2010 and Preliminary Results of 2009-2011 PM and Ozone Assessments**

Andrew Clayton presented the final results of the 2008-2010 PM and Ozone assessment and the preliminary results of the 2009-2011 assessments. ESRD hopes to have the final results of the 2009-2011 assessment posted to the website at the end of 2012/early 2013.

Andrew first discussed the ozone results, followed by the PM results. Andrew presented the levels prior to analysis for natural, background and transboundary influence and after backing out of these influences. With respect to Ozone, there were no surprises for 2008-2010 nor 2009-2011. It should be noted that under the CAAQS, the methods for calculating the three year average will change which could influence a station's action level.

The results for PM are more interesting. Prior to analysis, there are a much higher number of stations in 2010 that have exceeded the CWS trigger than in 2009. This is due to upgrades of TEOMs (Tapered Electrode Oscillating Microbalance) and a number of atmospheric inversion events that occurred. There were also a number of forest fires in August 2010 as well as May/June 2011. The May/June 2011 forest fires were mostly in the WBEA area and after analysis these stations returned to Surveillance action level or below. Post-analysis there are fewer stations that have exceeded the CWS trigger. While the 2011 numbers have not yet been finalized, it is likely that Red Deer will remain in the Mandatory Plan action level. Henry Pirker station (in Grande Prairie) may change from the Management Plan action level. This would be a new area of the province that requires a management plan.

The team extended a special thank you to Andrew for his presentation and his ongoing dedication and work to complete the PM and Ozone assessments. Please refer to Andrew's powerpoint presentation for specific station numbers.

***Action Item 18.5: Celeste will send out Andrew Clayton's presentation to the team.***

## **8) Next Steps**

Building on the discussion under agenda item 6, the team discussed the procedure for bringing their final report and recommendations to the Board.

The deadline for submissions for the 13 December Board meeting have already passed, but Celeste will provide a verbal update at the meeting and respond to any questions from the Board. The team

will therefore bring its final report and recommendations to the Board for approval at the March 2013 meeting in Calgary (date TBA). The deadline for submissions will be one month prior to the meeting. The submission will be accompanied by a powerpoint presentation which is usually delivered by the team co-chairs. Celeste will draft the presentation and send it to the team for review and approval. The presentation must be submitted two weeks prior to the Board meeting.

The team decided to create a small writing group to help Celeste with the first draft of the final report. The report will then be sent out to the full team for review and approval. The commitment of the small writing group entails reviewing and providing comment on the first preliminary draft of the report with a possible teleconference to discuss (30 min-1 hour). Depending on the comments received, the small writing group may be asked to review a second preliminary draft before it is sent to the full team for review. The following team members volunteered to take part in the small writing group:

- Elise Bieche
- Marc Huot
- Bob Myrick
- Claude Chamberland
- Brad Park (in a discussion the day following the meeting, Brad volunteered)

The team brainstormed the table of contents that Celeste will use to draft the final report:

- Intro/Background, including:
  - History (ex. created in 2006)
  - Reasons why team was created
  - Mandate of team
- Progress against Terms of Reference, including:
  - Majority of recommendations have been completed
  - Commentary on progress against mandate
  - Input provided to AQMS (lessons learned documents)
- Conclusions and Recommendations, including:
  - Summary of today's discussion
    - Rationale behind recommendations – CAAQS, etc.
  - Two recommendations

The team discussed the timelines to prepare for the Board meeting which is summarized as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Task</b>
Week of 17-21 December 2012	Preliminary draft of final report is sent to small writing group for review.
January 2013	Draft of final report sent to full team for review.
27 February 2013	Deadline for submission of final report and recommendations.
13 March 2013	Deadline for submission of powerpoint presentation.
Board meeting – 27 March 2013 (tentative)	Present final report and recommendations for Board approval. NB: the date for the March Board meeting will be confirmed at the Board meeting on 13 December 2012.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.