
Terms of Reference
Human & Animal Health Team
Final – 08 April 2004

Purpose:

- To provide a plan for implementation of the recommendations from the Human Health Project Team and the recommendations from the Animal Health Project Team.
- Successfully complete specific objectives as identified below.

Objectives:

- Review and provide an implementation plan for the recommendations from the Human Health Project Team (Appendix 3). Support the implementation of the plan as appropriate.
- Provide an implementation plan for the recommendations from the Animal Health Project Team (Appendix 2). Support the implementation of the plan as appropriate.
- Identify emerging issues in the area of air emissions and their effects on human and animal health.
- Organize a workshop(s) to disseminate information about the HERS system.
- Receive information about current and future research in the areas of human and animal health.
- Make recommendations to the CASA Board to address emerging issues and research.
- Provide information support to other project teams.
- Periodically evaluate, review and make any needed changes to the Herd and Environmental Record System and the Community Monitoring Brochure.
- Ensure adequate and appropriate communication with all stakeholders.

Context:

The Terms of Reference for this team support the key focus area of human and animal health identified by the CASA Board, and fits well within the priorities, values, and expectations of the Board. Overall the goal is to ensure implementation of recommendations of predecessor Teams in accordance with the CASA vision for air quality:

“The air will be odourless, tasteless, look clear and have no measurable short- or long-term adverse effects on people, animals or the environment.”

Timeline

Human and Animal Health Working Group convenes
HAHT Terms of Reference approved by the CASA Board

June 2003
March 2004

Mandate Review

After three years, a review will be undertaken to determine if there is ongoing work requiring an extension of the Group's mandate, as established in these Terms of Reference.

Membership on the Project Team*

Agriculture Industry Organizations
Alberta Energy and Utilities Board
Alberta Environment
Alberta Health and Wellness
Animal Health Organizations
Energy Industry Organizations
Environmental Organizations
Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations
First Nations
Health Canada
Health Non-Governmental Organizations
Human Health Organizations
Other Industry Organizations

* The current membership of the Human and Animal Health Team is listed in Appendix A.

Appendix A:
Current Membership (January 2004) Human & Animal Health Working Group

Name	Organization
Randy Angle	Alberta Environment
Simon Cobban	Intensive Livestock Working Group
Matthew Dance	Clean Air Strategic Alliance
John Drinkwater	BP Canada / Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers
Kim Eastlick	Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (EUB)
Margaret Fisher	AVMA
Geoff Granville	Shell Canada Limited / Canadian Petroleum Products Institute
Judy Huntley	Bert Riggall Environmental Foundation
Ila Johnston	Parkland Airshed Management Zone (PAMZ)
Joe Kendall	Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Phyllis Kobasiuk	Alberta Association of Municipal Districts & Counties
Martha Kostuch	Prairie Acid Rain Coalition
Dean Lien	Farmer's Advocate
Alexander MacKenzie	Alberta Health and Wellness
Penny Mosmann	Health Canada
Art J. Murphy	Health Canada
Carol Newman	Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP)
Greg Ritz	Rocky Mountain House Community Health Centre
Jonathan Robb	Alberta Health and Wellness
Al Schulz	Canadian Chemical Producer's Association (CCPA)
John Squarek	Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP)
David Swann	Wild Rose Agricultural Producers
Tim Taylor	PetroCanada/CAPP
Didem Varol	Alberta/NWT Region, Health Canada
Ruth Yanor	Mewassin Community Action Council

Appendix 2: Animal Health Project Team Recommendations

1. The AHPT recommends that the following two documents be printed and be made available according to the distribution plan (see Appendix F):
 - The Herd and Environmental Record System to livestock owners.
 - The Community Monitoring Brochure to landowners living in proximity to emission sources.
2. The AHPT recommends that the proposed complaints/response line, which is part of the approved Human Health Monitoring System, be expanded to enable documentation of and response to animal health complaints related to air pollution.
3. The Animal Health Project Team recommends that the Surface Rights Board develop and implement an awareness campaign so landowners are more aware of the Board's existence, its mandate and its responsibility for compensation regarding animal health issues.
4. The AHPT recommends that research be encouraged, supported and funded by the Alberta Government in the following areas:
 - Chemistry, toxicity, interaction and cumulative effects of mixtures of pollutants.
 - Effects of air pollution on reproduction and immunology.
 - Identification of biomarkers.
 - Exposure level assessment.
5. The AHPT recommends that its recommendations for improving the credibility of research be considered by any organization undertaking major research projects on the effects of air pollution on animal health.
6. The AHPT recommends that a Human and Animal Health Implementation Team be established to:
 - Review and implement, if still appropriate, the recommendations from the Human Health Project Team (see Appendix 3).
 - Implement recommendations from the Animal Health Project Team.
 - Organize a workshop(s) to disseminate information about HERS to the farming community.
 - Receive information about current and future research in the areas of human and animal health.
 - Provide input into current and future research.
 - Identify emerging issues in the areas of human and animal health, and recommend actions to address those issues.
 - Provide information support to other project teams.
 - Periodically evaluate, review and make any needed changes to the Herd and Environmental Record System and the Community Monitoring Brochure.

Appendix 3: Human Health Project Team Recommendations

The Human Health Project Team made the following recommendations to the CASA Board of Directors on November 25th, 1998:

Recommendation 1

The HHPT recommends that the CASA Board reaffirm its approval of the proposed framework for a Human Health Monitoring System (first given in February 1997);

Recommendation 2

The HHPT recommends that the CASA Board endorse the formation of a multi-stakeholder subgroup of the HHPT, under the joint leadership of Alberta Health and Wellness and Alberta Environmental Protection (now AENV), to develop specific recommendations, timelines, and work plan to implement the proposed Framework for a Human Health Monitoring System;

Recommendation 3

The HHPT recommends that the CASA Board incorporate a review of the implemented human health monitoring system into CASA's periodic strategic planning activities;

Recommendation 4

The HHPT recommends that the CASA Board endorse the proposed timelines to complete Appendices K (Evaluation Report) and L (Subgroup Report on Implementation) to this report before the June board meeting and to submit them for approval at that time.

The following recommendations were provided by the Performance Measures Sub-group as a reflection of the intent of the June 17, 1999 Human Health project Team recommendations.

Human Health Symptoms, Public Health Complaints

Alberta Health and Wellness (AHW) to establish a 1-800 phone-in line and data base to record Human Health Symptoms and Public Health Complaints as described in the May 18, 1999 Comprehensive Human Health Monitoring System (CHHMS) with the assistance of Regional Health Authorities (RHAs).

Human Health Effects

AHW to access information on existing, new, and emerging health outcomes attributed to contaminant exposures or events and include this in the data base as described in the CHHMS with the assistance of RHAs, Alberta Environment (AE), and the Energy and Utilities Board (EUB).

Extraordinary Emission Events

AHW, with the assistance of AE, EUB, RHAs, and industry, to establish a coordinated system to record Extraordinary Emission Events and include this in the data base established under **Human Health Symptoms, Public Health Complaints** above, as described in the CHHMS.

Human Health Effects Monitoring

AHW, with the assistance of RHAs, to enhance and refine the monitoring of Human Health Effects to add to the data base established under **Human Health Symptoms, Public Health Complaints** above, as described in the CHHMS.

Ambient Air Monitoring

AE and EUB, with the assistance of AHW, RHAs, and CASA, to enhance and refine the Ambient Air Monitoring System to complement Human Health Effects Monitoring, to add to the data base established under **Human Health Symptoms, Public Health Complaints** above, as described in the CHHMS.

Ongoing Activity

AHW to establish a system to manage and monitor the established data base with its six components on an ongoing basis as described in the CHHMS. The data base is reviewed on an ongoing basis to provide an early warning of health effects due to emissions, or links between emissions and human health symptoms or effects, and determine the health status of the population. This will require the cooperation of AE, RHAs, and CASA.

Issues/Actions Identification

AHW to establish a formal process to review human health issues identified through Ongoing Activity above as described in the CHHMS. A scientific advisory committee (SAC) will be needed to provide scientific oversight on this and subsequent steps.

Investigation

AHW, with the assistance of AE, EUB and RHAs, to undertake Investigations identified under **Issues/Actions Identification** above, as described in the CHHMS. Oversight to be provided by SAC.

Further Problem Identification

AHW, overseen by the SAC, as described in the CHHMS, to evaluate the results of investigations and ongoing activities in order to: (a) choose a health decision, an environment decision, or both or (2) initiate special monitoring. In either case, AHW to advise stakeholders and communicate to public.

Special Monitoring

AHW, overseen by the SAC, to initiate special monitoring required under 26 above, as described in the CHHMS.

Communications Strategy

CASA or AHW or stakeholders develop a communications strategy to inform stakeholders and the public, at each step, of steps proposed and taken, responding to public input and keeping them informed, notifying RHAs about environmental health complaints not based on air pollution, and producing regular reports on air quality and human health, as described in the CHHMS.

Multi-Stakeholder Management

AHW in partnership with CASA to establish a multi-stakeholder management group that will function as an Operations Steering Committee as described in the CHHMS. This is distinct from the data management required to operate the system.