

Final Minutes



Clean Air Strategy Project Team Meeting 18

January 12-13, 2009

Coast Edmonton House, Edmonton

In attendance:

Name	Organization
Jennifer Allan	CASA
Don Bradshaw	Alberta Energy
Christine Byrne	Imperial Oil, CAPP
Lawrence Cheng	Alberta Environment
Peter Dzikowski	Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation
Gerry Ertel	Shell Canada, CPPI
Long Fu	Alberta Environment
Debra Gardiner	Enmax
James Guthrie	TransAlta
Sharon Hawrelak	CASA (item 2, day 1 only)
Tony Hudson	The Lung Association
Sandy Jones	Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development (day two only)
Steve Kennett	Pembina Institute
Myles Kitagawa	Prairie Acid Rain Coalition
Alison Lewis	Graymont Western Canada
Al Mok	Suncor, CAPP
Bettina Mueller	Alberta Environment
Allan Mumby	Alberta Airsheds Council
Kim Sanderson	CASA
Anita Sartori	CNRL, CAPP
Al Schulz	CCPA (day 1 only)
Nashina Shariff	Toxics Watch Society
Merry Turtiak	Alberta Health and Wellness (item 2, day 1 only)
Mike Zemanek	Alberta Health and Wellness

With regrets:

Name	Organization
Michael Brown	ERCB
Tim Goos	Environment Canada
David Lawlor	Enmax (PPA Buyers)
Jason Schultz	TransCanada
Srikanth Venugopal	TransCanada

Action items:

Task	Who	When
17.8: Team members will forward any key stakeholder dates in 2009 to Jennifer in an effort to coordinate stakeholder consultations.	All	Ongoing.
18.1: The Public Consultation Subgroup will consider whether comments about how the team responded should be embedded in the draft CAS.	Public Consultation Subgroup	Feb 24
18.2: The Public Consultation Subgroup will consider in more detail the process for addressing feedback that comes in phase 3.	Public Consultation Subgroup	Feb 24
18.3: Jennifer will ensure the February agenda includes an update on stakeholder consultations.	Jennifer	Feb 1
18.4: Sharon will contact the Calder Bateman researcher to get a precise number as to how many responses this amount includes and to flesh out any other parameters and deliverables to be covered by these funds.	Sharon	Feb 24
18.5: Anita will contact Renata in AENV to see if she can get further clarification on the specific comment pertaining to Aboriginal involvement in monitoring programs.	Anita	Feb 24
18.6: Bettina will contact Mike Brown about identifying an AQMS subgroup member from the ERCB.	Bettina	Jan 19
18.7: Jennifer will check with Kerra Chomlak to see if she wants to be on the AQMS subgroup.	Jennifer	Jan 19
18.8: AQMS subgroup will review the AQMS and bring recommendations to the team.	Bettina, Mike Z, Allan, Myles, Gerry, ERCB rep	Jan 23 and 26
18.9: Long and Debra will review the list of candidate areas for strategies in PPC action 3a to consolidate and add descriptive text as appropriate.	Long and Debra	Feb 9
18.10: Jennifer will contact Calgary-based team members about hosting the February meeting.	Jennifer	Jan 23

Steve Kennett convened the meeting at 10:15 am. Those present introduced themselves.

1 Administrative Items

a) Approval of agenda and meeting objectives

Steve reviewed the agenda and meeting objectives. The aim is to come out of this meeting with agreement in principle, or assignments for additional work, so that a draft document can be circulated to stakeholders and also enable team members to brief up in their organizations. There will be a later opportunity for editorial input.

b) Approve minutes from meeting 17

The minutes from meeting 17 were approved by consensus.

c) Action items follow up

Task	Status
16.1: Jennifer will distribute Bettina's AQMS presentation to the team.	Done
16.2: Team members will send any further comments or wording suggestions	Done

Task	Status
on the draft strategic directions to Jennifer for distribution to the SDSG.	
16.3: Jennifer will post breakout group feedback from meeting 16 and any additional comments on the draft text to the Sharepoint site.	Done
17.1: CASA will select a location for the two-day meeting in January.	Done
17.2: Jennifer will email the presentation Bettina made to the Board to the team.	Done
17.3: Al and Jennifer will review what is in the consultation report, cross-check with the goals and actions in the rolling draft, and bring a summary to the January workshop.	Done
17.4: The SDSG will develop criteria and high level guidance to determine which pollutants we need trigger levels for, as noted in Regional Planning, Goal 2.	Done
17.5: The Governance subgroup will look at roles and options in the air quality management system, particularly related to shared governance.	Done
17.6: The Beliefs, Values and Principles subgroup will further refine the slides.	Done
17.7: Team members will forward any comments they have on Part One to their co-chair and to Jennifer.	Done
17.8: Team members will forward any key stakeholder dates in 2009 to Jennifer in an effort to coordinate stakeholder consultations.	Ongoing. Jennifer reminded the team that this is important to avoid conflicts.

d) CASA Update and Process Ahead

The AMSP team may want to give a presentation to this team on their work, likely in February.

2 Public Consultation

a) Public consultation report

Merry Turtiak provided a summary of phase 2 consultations. 122 people attended the seven town hall meetings, 328 completed the online survey, and 43 news stories covered the consultations. Merry reviewed the key findings with reference to the Calder Bateman report that was previously circulated to the team. The key conclusion from the public consultations was that air quality in Alberta is good now and people want to see strong action to ensure it remains that way for future generations.

Team members provided additional comments based on their experiences and perceptions of the consultations.

- There seemed to be differences among industries in their performance and response to issues, there are differences in some sectors between large and small companies, and in some cases the same industry is perceived differently in different parts of the province. The report does not reflect this.
- Some comments refer to small and some to larger industry, and the distinction is not always clear. Also, some comments made at the meetings got diluted with survey input, when all comments were taken into account.
- Indoor air quality does not appear in the report as a concern.

- It was noted that these were the results of an independent researcher after careful review of all responses (via the web survey, town hall and public submissions). Team members may have heard some concerns at town hall meetings that did not make the priority list when aggregated.
- Comments about deteriorating air quality and health impacts may not be factually correct.
- The input reflects people's opinions and does not represent all Albertans. This needs to be clearly indicated in the report.
- Perhaps a statistically designed survey could be done after the CAS is presented and as part of implementation.

Merry then reviewed the plans for phase 3 of the consultations, which will entail:

- Three stakeholder focus groups
- Targeting groups and individuals
- Posting online

The consultation findings should inform the draft CAS, and the team needs to consider how it will respond to any major feedback that comes in phase 3. The Public Consultation Subgroup will determine criteria for following up with invitations to participate in phase 3. GoA members are also looking for ways to engage youth in phase 3.

Members discussed how to indicate the team's responses to issues raised in the consultations. A separate companion document could be prepared.

Action 18.1: The Public Consultation Subgroup will consider whether comments about how the team responded should be embedded in the draft CAS.

The aim is to have a draft document ready to go to the public by March 2. Any major issues coming out of the phase 3 consultations should be ready for the team to discuss at its April meeting.

Action 18.2: The Public Consultation Subgroup will consider in more detail the process for addressing feedback that comes in phase 3.

Action 18.3: Jennifer will ensure the February agenda includes an update on stakeholder consultations.

b) Public consultation budget request

The Public Consultation Subgroup requested that another \$24,950 be allocated to public consultation activities to cover additional work for phase 2 and complete the final phase of the public consultation as planned. This request assumes a modest response to the strategy in phase 3 (about 50 plus the three focus groups). These funds are not additional to funds that were requested previously. This amount does not include contingency. The team needs to look for ways to keep costs down since other uses for the CAS funds could possibly be identified.

The team approved the budget request of \$24,950 on the condition that the Subgroup obtains a clear description of what this includes; if the public response in phase 3 is larger than expected, additional funds could be allocated.

Action 18.4: Sharon will contact the Calder Bateman researcher to get a precise number as to how many responses this amount includes and to flesh out any other parameters and deliverables to be covered by these funds.

3 Review Comparison Table: CAS Content and Public Input

Al Mok reviewed the table of public expectations and how the draft CAS addresses them, focusing on the areas where the CAS may require additional response. The “where to address in CAS” represents initial comments from team members how to respond.

	Comment	Where to address in CAS
Expectations of Government	Details on more comprehensive EIAs	AQMS discussion under Governance
	Coordinate air quality strategies with other jurisdictions	Knowledge and Information – what we can learn from others.
	Independent component re scientific committee to review and oversee all ambient air quality monitoring data	Addressed in Governance, page 1; Knowledge and Information talks about independent body.
Expectations from First Nations consultations	Develop a strategy that is flexible and nimble, and able to adapt to changing times and issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss in Governance, but also consider how we word our recommendations and how tightly we set the boundaries. • Could perhaps flesh out adaptive management in the intro to strategic directions. • Last section – ongoing review.
	Address the health impacts of poor air quality	Message is already there. Can it be more explicit?
	Invest a share of industrial profits in pollution prevention programs on reserve see notes in table.	Deal with under Pollution Prevention and Control
	Engagement of Aboriginal peoples in monitoring programs	First Nations should be engaged and invited to participate in multi-stakeholder processes. Would be good to have more insight into the context for this comment – is the focus job creation or to bring local knowledge? See action 18.5.

Action 18.5: Anita will contact Renata in AENV to see if she can get further clarification on the specific comment pertaining to Aboriginal involvement in monitoring programs.

4 Strategic Directions and Introductory Section

The team reviewed and discussed each strategic direction and the introductory section, with members providing comments, including any feedback obtained to date from their stakeholders. If there was agreement, changes were made directly in the CAS document. The team was also reminded that both timeframes and responsible parties for implementation need to be identified, but there may not be time to do it at this meeting. As well, text will be inserted before each goal noting that this is something the team is recommending for inclusion in a new Clean Air Strategy for Alberta.

In a number of places, members agreed to take on specific tasks related to revising existing text or drafting new text for insertion to the next draft. Actions items related to preparing text for the report were reviewed at the end of the meeting and a list distributed to the team the next day. These action items are due by end of day January 16 and are not included in these minutes.

As part of the review of the Governance section, Bettina did a short presentation on the Air Quality Management System (AQMS), noting that a number of questions about roles and responsibilities of existing institutions such as CASA and airshed zones were raised some time ago. It is even more timely now in light of the Land-use Framework to consider these roles. The team can either try to address these matters or simply recommend that they be examined by the GoA in future, specifying the process, criteria and timeframe for the review. The Governance strategic direction includes draft goals on some areas related to the AQMS, but not others.

The team agreed to form a new subgroup to review the Air Quality Management System and develop recommendations for the team by mid-February. In the draft that goes out next week to stakeholders, Goal 3 will remain in the text, but the body of goal 3 and all of goal 4 will be removed.

The AQMS subgroup will consist of: Allan Mumby, Bettina Mueller, Gerry Ertel (Anita will be Gerry's alternate), Myles Kitagawa, Mike Zemanek, and someone from the ERCB.

Action 18.6: Bettina will contact Mike Brown about identifying an AQMS subgroup member from the ERCB.

Action 18.7: Jennifer will check with Kerra Chomlak to see if she wants to be on the AQMS subgroup.

Action 18.8: AQMS subgroup will review the AQMS and bring recommendations to the team.

Action 18.9: Long and Debra will review the list of candidate areas for strategies in PPC action 3a to consolidate and add descriptive text as appropriate.

5 Next Steps

- Action items relating to new text or revisions to be completed and sent to Kim and Jennifer by Friday, Jan.16
- A revised draft with post-meeting changes tracked will be emailed to the team by Tuesday Jan. 20, along with a memo from the co-chairs describing the process for review and the intent of the remaining placeholders. Stakeholders will see another draft before the document is made public.
- Team members will provide any final feedback on this draft by Jan. 21, noting showstoppers only. Co-chairs will resolve these if necessary and a new draft will go out Jan. 22. Stakeholders will have three weeks to provide comments to their team member (by Feb. 12)
- Stakeholder input will be forwarded to the appropriate co-chair for consolidation, with assistance from Jennifer as required.
- A subgroup will be formed to assess stakeholder feedback for each strategic direction, meeting between Feb. 17 and Feb 20.
- The CAS team will meet on February 24.
- Phase 3 consultations start March 2.

6 Next Meeting

- February 24 in Calgary.

Action 18.10: Jennifer will contact Calgary-based team members about hosting the February meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm on January 13.