



Developing PG AIR's Phase III Air Quality Management Plan

April 28, 2009 (May 26, 2009)



Objectives

To review the process for developing the Phase III Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) by:

- Refining the scope
- Creating a framework to drive the Phase III plan
- Agreeing on criteria that should be considered when selecting emission sources for reduction
- Identifying next steps



Currently.....

- Struck Phase III committee – February 2009
- Established Phase III Project Plan w/ milestones for completion & stakeholder reviews
- Drafted Phase III Report Outline
 - Part 1: Intro, Background, Summary of Research & Weight of Evidence
 - Part 2: Ranking Emission Sources for Reduction – Methodology
 - Prioritization Matrix: Sources vs. Impact Assessment Criteria
 - Part 3: Implementing Source Reduction Measures & Tracking System
 - Episode Management, Interim Goals, Long-Term Goals



Concerns.....

- Based on Phase III committee discussions, and feedback on report outline/proposed methodology provided to RWG:
 - There are different opinions on how Phase III should be developed, and what criteria should be considered
- Lack of representation from all members/directors on Phase III Committee



Refining the scope

Single or multi-pollutant reduction strategy?

- PM_{2.5}
- PM₁₀
- SO_x
- O₃
- CO
- No_x



Phase III - Objectives

To prioritize significant emission sources for reduction by assessing impacts and/or considering:

- Human Health Risks
- Technology
- Cost of Implementation
- Environmental Performance
- Nuisance Risks



Human Health

Rationale:

Source reduction measures should be ranked to achieve the greatest improvements in human health, based on:

- Areas with greater population density
- Location of sensitive receptors (schools, daycares, hospitals, senior's residences etc.)
- Predicted concentrations at ambient receptors (based on modelling and other studies)



Technology

Rationale:

The type of pollution control technology currently used on significant emission sources should be factored into the decision-making process because:

- Upgrades may have occurred since 2005
- Priority should be given to those sources not using Best Achievable Technology (as per PG AIR's January 8th Recommendation)



Costs \$\$\$

Rationale:

The Prince George Airshed Research Plan (2003) (presented and approved by the PG AQIC), identified the need to conduct a cost/benefit evaluation of source reductions by the AQIC.

- Example: Cost / unit discharge reduction (g/s improvement)
- How are other costs accounted for? (e.g. health-care, loss in productivity)?
- Is the cost borne by government, private citizens and industry the same?

Environmental Performance

Rationale:

Should consideration be given to reduction measures already undertaken for significant emission sources, because:

- Reductions in pollutants may have already been achieved since 2005
- Past behaviour is a good indicator of future performance



Nuisance Risks

Rationale:

Should consideration be given to 'nuisance' impacts like

- Visibility/aesthetics
- Odour

because these have the ability to affect enjoyment of life and property?

Phase III Framework (Suggested)

IF PG AIR agrees that human health is paramount, then the framework for the Phase III AQMP could be guided by

- a GIS mapping exercise to identify 'exposure hotspots'
 - Population Density
 - Sensitive Receptors
 - Ambient concentrations at receptors



Phase III Criteria

- 'Exposure Hotspots' can then be ranked according to predicted ambient concentrations
- Emission sources that are shown by modelling to affect hotspots would be selected for reduction based on consideration of the criteria agreed to by PG AIR:
 - Technology, cost, nuisance, environmental performance etc.



Approach

What is the best process for moving Phase III forward?

- Unbiased facilitator
- Committee of the Whole
- Phase III sub-committee



Questions?

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