

# Minutes



## *Non-Point Source Project Team, Meeting #3*

**Date:** Thursday February 25, 2016

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Place:** CASA Office, Edmonton

**In attendance:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Stakeholder group</b>
Atta Atia	Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AAF)
Tasha Blumenthal	Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC)
Bill Calder	Prairie Acid Rain Coalition
Rhonda Lee Curran	Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP)
Jim Hackett	ATCO
Rob Hoffman	Canadian Fuels Association (CFA)
David Lawlor	Alberta Airsheds Council (AAC) - Calgary Region Airshed Zone
Alison Miller	Imperial Oil Ltd. (CAPP/CIAC)
Andrew Read	Pembina Institute
Martin Van Olst	Environment and Climate Change Canada
David Spink	Prairie Acid Rain Coalition
Scott Wilson	Alberta Motor Association (AMA)
Ruth Yanor	Mewassin Community Council
Amanda Stuparyk	CASA
Warren Greeves	CASA

**Guest Presenter:**

Yayne-abeba Aklilu                      Alberta Environment and Parks

**Regrets:**

Bob Scotten                                      Alberta Airsheds Council (AAC) - West Central Airshed Society  
 Val Mellesmoen                                      AEMERA

**Action Items:**

<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Due By</b>
1.6: Pursue the ability for CASA communications assistance to start a social media (e.g. Twitter) discussion/conversation around NPSs and the work of the new CASA Project Team.	Amanda	<b>Meeting #5</b>
1.7: Discuss internal CASA Communications capabilities and potential to provide support for the NPS Objective #4.	Amanda	<b>Meeting #5</b>
2.1: The NPS Project Team will send Amanda any additional NPS resources including any references outside Alberta; National/International and/or cross-jurisdictional reviews.	All Project Team Members	<b>Ongoing</b>
3.1: The co-chairs will review and provide Amanda any edits or clarifications for the 2015 CASA Annual Report highlight on the Non-Point Source project.	Amanda and co-chairs	<b>ASAP</b>
3.2: The co-chairs will review the listing of resources from the 2013 NPS Workshop and report back to the team on any required reading suggestions.	Amanda and co-chairs	<b>Meeting #4</b>
3.3: Amanda will work with the co-chairs to draft a workplan outline for objectives 1 and 2 for review at the next team meeting.	Amanda and co-chairs	<b>Meeting #4</b>
3.4: Government (both Environment and Agriculture) to look at any information available on source apportionment and ammonia (respectively) that can be added to the NPS Resource Library and for project team review.	Rhonda Lee and Atta	<b>ASAP</b>

3.5: Amanda and co-chairs will draft presentation to the CASA Board for the March 24 <sup>th</sup> Board meeting.	Amanda and co-chairs	<b>By March 17<sup>th</sup></b>
3.6: Amanda will create and send link via email for a Doodle Poll requesting team members' availability for the next three monthly team meetings in Q2 of 2016.	Amanda	<b>ASAP</b>

## 1. Administrative Items

The meeting began at 9:30 a.m. with Alison chairing the morning and Rhonda Lee the afternoon. Team members introduced themselves and were welcomed to the meeting. Meeting quorum was achieved.

The draft agenda and meeting objectives were approved.

The minutes from meeting #2 were reviewed and approved with general editorial updates. These will be finalized and posted on the CASA website. Action item status from meeting #2 were updated as follows:

Action Item	Who	Status
1.6: Pursue the ability for CASA communications assistance to start a social media (e.g. Twitter) discussion/conversation around NPS's and the work of the new CASA Project Team.	Amanda	Carry forward. Estimate Team discussion at Meeting #5.
1.7: Discuss internal CASA Communications capabilities and potential to provide support for the NPS Objective #4.	Amanda	Carry forward.
2.1: The NPS Project Team will send Amanda any additional NPS resources including any references outside Alberta; National/International and/or cross-jurisdictional reviews.	All Project Team Members	Carry forward as ongoing action item for team members as needed.
2.2: Amanda will incorporate all current edits to the Task Group Terms of Reference and send to the project team via email for final comments or edits and will revise into a final draft document for the task group.	Amanda	Complete.
2.3: Project team members will review and provide any comments or edits to Amanda via email on the revised version of the Task Group Terms of Reference by the deadline.	All Project Team Members	Complete.
2.4: Bob will pursue an additional Airshed technical expert to participate on the Technical Task Group.	Bob	Complete.
2.5: Send a poll with a selection of meeting dates to the task group members and schedule the Technical Task Group Meeting #1.	Amanda	Complete.
2.6: Amanda will confirm with AEP the ability to share the presentation and provide it via email to the project team.	Amanda	Complete.

### **Additional Information:**

1.6 – Capacity and ability for project support by communications in the secretariat is being assessed. Amanda hopes to have the CASA's communications person attend Meeting #5 to assist in the discussion including other available external support for a communications workplan with the project team.

### **CASA Update**

Amanda provided an update on the CASA secretariat:

- The secretariat has received their internal operating 2016 funding.
- Staff are busy preparing for the March 24<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting in Edmonton.
- CASA's 2015 Annual Report. The Communications committee and CASA staff are working on the 2015 Annual Report and highlight CASA's projects including the NPS project. The committee had noted that some information (from the project charter) for the project might be out of date and need some edits (i.e. the project will focus on anthropogenic sources of NPS). The project team agreed the co-chairs could provide any edits on the annual report.

***Action Item 3.1: The co-chairs will review and provide Amanda any edits or clarifications for the 2015 CASA Annual Report highlights on the Non-Point Source project.***

### **Task Group Update**

Amanda provided an update on the Technical Task Group activities:

- The NPS Technical Task Group will have its first meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>; the focus of the first meeting is to review and discuss the draft terms of reference.
- The team discussed task group membership and requested that Rhonda Lee be added to the task group for additional technical expertise from government.

### **Additional - NPS Resource Library:**

- Amanda provided the team an update on all added references since the last meeting and committed to sending this listing to the Project Team in their ‘Follow Up’ information email. She will endeavour to send a listing of new documents to the team 2 weeks before meetings, if there are any. There was a question around adding any of the resources from the 2013 NPS Workshop into the Library. A listing of the resources used at the workshop is available with the login for team members. The co-chairs offered to review the listing and determine if there are any ‘required reading’ resources for the team.

*Action Item 3.2: The co-chairs will review the complete listing of resources from the 2013 NPS Workshop and report back to the team on any required reading suggestions.*

## **2. Project Team Member Updates**

The Communications Roundtable focuses on any information/updates or initiatives within member organizations related to NPS or anything members want to inform the project team about. Highlights of the Roundtable included:

- The Canadian Fuels Association will be hosting a workshop targeted for May focusing on “On-road and non-road (marine and rail, etc.) model for emissions”, a US EPA modelling system called “MOVES”. It is hopeful that the co-chairs of the NPS project team will receive invites to attend this workshop and may provide any information/data back to the team.
- Alberta Agriculture and Forestry is involved in a new project with Environment and Parks; the “Odour Management Team” will conduct a comprehensive review of odour management practices in Alberta.
- The [draft Transportation Strategy](#) for Alberta (in progress) contains an environmental stewardship goal and may help inform potential actions on transportation emissions. Available information can be added to the resource library.
- AEMERA released the [Joint Canada-Alberta Oil Sands Monitoring Three-Year External Review Report](#) this week and is available on their website
- The [2014-15 Technical Results Summary on Joint Oil Sands Monitoring Program](#) was also released this week and some notable areas in the report:
  - A significant portion of PM is developed post-emissions; and when applied to the oilsands regions, this is closer to 50% formation from secondary formation
  - Tailings are a more important sources of VOC than originally thought
- From the CAAQS working group – some highlights of current work include information around Alberta’s emissions and national rankings. Alberta has 2 of the top 3 highest levels of SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> based on the 3-yr average values (includes both Edmonton & Calgary). No matter what levels are prescribed in the planned new SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> CAAQS, they will affect Alberta and there will be some implications for our air quality management.
  - This work could help inform our work as further scoping for objective 2 occurs.

### 3. Draft Project Team Workplan

The team had a group exercise breakout session to brainstorm work areas around each of the pieces of objective 1 and objective 2 from the project charter. This information will be used to draft a workplan and be discussed further at their next meeting. The team considered how each piece of work will be done including any considerations for tasks, budget, timelines, and if additional resources such as task groups or consultants may be required. Some highlights of the discussion included the following.

#### **Objective #1: Common understanding of NPS in Alberta.**

Note for clarification: Strategy 1.1 is a completed task as the CAAQS first reporting period report has been released and being used as the basis for the team's work.

Strategies 1.2 – 1.3 have been identified by the Project Team for technical review and assessment by the task group.

Strategy 1.4 will be partially addressed by the task group and ultimately be produced as a main deliverable by the project team with input from the group. This is meant to be a product in itself and be valuable to addressing NPS emissions in Alberta.

The project team identified that they will be completing other areas of work that will support the objectives while the task group is completing its work. While the task group will be looking at which NPS we should prioritize, the team can start a list of potential NPS (e.g. informed by emissions inventory and presentations received) to begin discussing potential mechanisms and ability to influence those NPS (Objective 1), and see where there could be the most impact (Objective 2). The team may also engage sector experts for input on potential opportunities for emission reductions that may be non-traditional in nature and require unique strategies to be explored by the team.

Work areas/steps to explore further:

- Consider the availability/accessibility and value of any industrial or other monitoring information to supplement monitoring included as part of the CAAQS report (task group).
- Consider both urban and rural areas in terms of primary PM and secondary PM, as there would be different strategies to deal with the different pollutants (task group and ultimately project team). It is important to be as inclusive as possible, while still maintaining the focus on the areas where emissions are causing orange or red ambient air quality management levels.
- Consider any critical gaps or uncertainties in the available data or information identified by the task group. With advice from the task group, ultimately it will be up to the project team to decide whether any key gaps should be filled (i.e. if there is a need for consultant or outside assistance able to dedicate a good amount of time to the work).
- The team anticipates the deliverable for objective 1 to be complete by summer 2016, pending feedback from the task group.

#### **Objective #2: Identification of non-point source opportunities in Alberta.**

Objectives 2.1 to 2.4. (Objective 2.5 includes direction to the team to *'Review team membership and determine if a change in membership is required for next steps.'* - The project team will assess this near the end of objective 2).

- Work for 2.1 and 2.2 might involve hiring a consultant.
- The potential time availability of the project team members will need to be explored further if this work is to be undertaken by the team. The project team can work on developing a terms of reference or detailed request for proposal for a consultant report that address 2.1 and 2.2 if consultant assistance is needed for those tasks.

- This would be a high level review of NPS's and how they are managed in other jurisdictions. There is some expertise within the Project Team. Government can provide information on what is currently being regulated in Alberta.
- The contracted jurisdictional scan on actions in non-attainment areas that is currently underway through the GoA is more focused on point source emissions but may also help inform some NPS opportunities.
- There are existing jurisdictional scans on transportation emission reduction options.

Objectives 3 and 4 will be explored further by the team at the next meeting.

*Action Item 3.3: Amanda will work with the co-chairs to draft a workplan outline for objectives 1 and 2 for review at the next team meeting.*

## **4. Atmospheric Sciences Presentation (AEP)**

The Project Team received a presentation from Alberta Environment and Parks on Understanding Secondary Pollutants including particulate matter and ozone (atmospheric sciences). Some discussion included how the project team could focus the NPS work. The work will consider the nature of the NPS that are contributing to orange/red management levels, including looking at composition and where they are from (done in the Capital Region) where information is available. The team also discussed the need to make inferences about key NPS in some situations. A consideration may be whether exceedances are due to baseload or peak events. The recommendation was for the team to go 'broad' with their review/assessment.

## **5. Learnings and Key Messages from Presentations & Readings (to date)**

The team went roundtable to discuss main take-aways from the presentations received to date and any of the required reading materials. This was to ensure all team members are sharing their considerations and are "at the same place" in the development of a common understanding within the team.

Highlights of the discussion on key messaging included:

- Transportation (mobile sources) is a significant contributor to NO<sub>x</sub> (e.g. 55% from mobile sources including on- and off-road in the Capital Region).
- SO<sub>2</sub> is a smaller piece. May matter more on an event day than when looking at the overall baseline. There are requirements for low-sulphur transportation fuels (i.e. boats and other must use low-sulphur diesel) already in place, but still cannot entirely omit sulphur from consideration.
- Rural vs. Urban differences. The limiting factors for VOCs are different in rural and urban areas; the team should explore this. There may be opportunity for different management actions or tools.
- Identify regional approaches, not strictly urban/rural – some municipalities already operate in a regional manner. Explore opportunity to piggyback on existing relationships/work – or a way to get information in/out.
- Recognize limitations of information or data. At some point, it is going to be difficult to distinguish between contributing point and non-point sources but we will need to consider and understand the point sources. This may require broad management strategy linkages.
  - Government is developing management strategies for point sources (looking at that may be outside of scope) and land use planning is also starting to look at this.
- Weather and meteorological effects are important, including temperature and related variability of the NPS emissions.
- Road dust and construction are considered high emission sources of primary PM<sub>2.5</sub> (from the emissions inventory). Road dust does not have a large impact on regional PM monitoring but it is vehicles that contribute the NO<sub>x</sub> that is important to the secondary PM 2.5 that is the bigger part of the problem in the Capital Region.

- Based on emissions inventory, heating is noted as a contributing NPS of NO<sub>x</sub> and VOCs in the Capital Region, but heating is smaller in relation to transportation.
- Emergency action during periods of stable atmosphere when you are seeing an inversion and high ambient levels of PM 2.5 may be one key part of the team's work for urban air quality.
- It would be helpful to look at annual data to determine whether the base levels are more important than the spikes.

Highlights of the discussion of identifying gaps included:

- It would be helpful to have some source apportionment for Calgary; we have already seen some information on this for the Capital Region. Government reps will provide any available information.
- For industry, there is limited information for ammonia. It was noted that 90% of ammonia emissions is from Agriculture-related activities but could also include vehicles, oil-sands operations (scrubbers create ammonium sulphate; tailings), and in urban areas, landfills, lawns.
  - The request was made to Government to see if there is any additional information. The *NPS Resource Library* already has the CFO reporting/information from Ag.
  - The task group will also be providing information about inventories.
- Speciated data is limited. Need to make best effort with information we have.
- Concern over emissions factors and our inventories - there may be some future recommendations for better NPS inventories (this may be flagged by the task group).
- It may help for the team to have a better understanding of the process and options for approvals (EPEA approvals). A future presentation to look at how things are approved based on air quality.

***Action Item 3.4: Government (both Environment and Agriculture) to look at any information available on source apportionment and ammonia (respectively) that can be added to the NPS Resource Library and for project team review.***

## **6. Board Meeting Planning (March 24th Edmonton)**

The team identified key messages for the CASA Board presentation. They confirmed no decisions or requests are being made at this time. The team discussed presenters and agreed it makes more sense to have team members present that are in Edmonton as the March meeting is in Edmonton. When the meeting is next held in Calgary, team members in Calgary will present. CASA Board meetings are open to all team members but attendance has to be confirmed (email Amanda) in advance. As this is the first presentation to the board, Rhonda Lee and Bill agreed to co-present as they have previously presented to the CASA board on the NPS work. The team agreed the co-chairs can work with Amanda to draft the presentation.

The presentation should also include:

- What the team has done and learned so far – Objective 1 – develop a common understanding
- Convening the task group and developing their Terms of Reference/anticipated work
- That the project is on time and on budget – no funds have been spent so far and the team is reviewing every efficiency possible for the work
- Discuss some of the key emerging learnings/messages

***Action Item 3.5: Amanda and co-chairs will draft presentation to the CASA Board for the March 24<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.***

## **7. Next Steps and Next Meeting**

The team reviewed action items from the meeting and confirmed the next project team meeting is March 30, 2016, 10:00 am – 3:30 pm (hosting courtesy of Canadian Fuels Association).

Main considerations and objectives for their next scheduled meeting in March include:

- Continue to develop the Project Team Workplan(s) – Team assessment and document details on what is going to be needed to be completed over the next 6 months and for all objectives of this project including Timelines and Budgets.
- Task group update and review of ToR - how they have developed understanding to date.
- Receive presentation from South Saskatchewan Region and discuss.
- Assess the potential for other possible presentations at future team meetings including:
  - Lower/Upper Athabasca/Peace Regions
  - Red Deer Region – once Red Deer Response released
  - Any other
  - Begin exploring sources or sectors – E.g. Transportation/mobile sources
  - Airsheds (is there capacity for presentations to contribute to our learning?)
- Discuss CASA March Board meeting – presentation feedback/questions

The March meeting is the last scheduled project team meeting date so the team discussed frequency of future project team meetings given that the task group is just beginning their work. They noted they could review and assess work on some different areas while the task group is working but may become constrained for work while waiting for the task group deliverables. The team requested that Amanda create a doodle poll for the next 3 meetings in Q2 2016. In order to maintain momentum and meet anticipated deadlines, the team agreed to continue to meet monthly and assess later if needed.

***Action Item 3.6: Amanda will create and send link via email for a Doodle Poll requesting team members' availability for the next three monthly team meetings in Q2 of 2016.***

**The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.**