



November 26, 2010

Release of 2010 Dispersion Modelling Report

The Prince George Air Improvement Round Table (PGAIR) is releasing the final version of Stantec's Prince George Air Quality Dispersion Modelling Report. The results provide model predictions of the contributions of various emission sources to ambient levels of fine and ultra-fine particulate matter, known as PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}. The dispersion modelling study was initiated by the Research Working Group (RWG) in 2006 with the objectives of:

- i) Identifying the relative contribution of each major source in the Prince George airshed, to ambient air quality, especially particulate matter; and
- ii) Examining scenarios for source reduction to maximize the reduction in ambient levels. (See the modelling proposal at [http://pgairquality.com/uploads/files/pdf/PGRWG-MSP\(2005\).pdf](http://pgairquality.com/uploads/files/pdf/PGRWG-MSP(2005).pdf)).

The first draft of this report was received in March 2010 and subsequently revised based on reviewers' comments. These predictions represent the best information to-date characterising the contributions of specific sources on ambient levels in the Prince George airshed. After a review of the report by members of the RWG, it was noted that the information provided in the report was more reliable for the majority of sectors; however, a few sectors require closer assessment. The refinements include re-modelling of some fine particulate sources, checking of model accuracy and comparison of results with those from previous studies, including the Sonoma Technology Inc. receptor modelling study. Some of this work is underway through the RWG.

PGAIR is currently determining how the most pressing model refinements can be completed so that as much information as possible can be considered in the Phase III Plan. The Draft Phase III plan will be released to the public based on the current findings. The public is invited to comment on the plan and it will be updated considering public input and any additional findings available. It is expected that the Phase III Plan will be a living document that will encourage positive actions to improve air quality. It is intended that the results will guide PGAIR to rank the sources based on their predicted contributions of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} to ambient levels in various areas of the airshed. With this information, emission reduction targets can be set to enable the airshed objectives to be met. PGAIR's Phase III Plan objectives can be found at http://pgairquality.com/uploads/files/pdf/mediareleases/010809_MediaRelease_PGAIREmissionReductionTargets.pdf.

The report will be placed on the PGAIR's website on December 1, 2010 and can found at <http://www.pgairquality.com/>.

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PGAIR Society is a group of volunteers representing a broad spectrum of the community; including the public, government, industry, Northern Health, UNBC, PACHA, commercial and transportation sectors. PGAIR is working towards continuous improvement of the air quality within the Prince George air shed, and coordinates various programs and communication initiatives in support of this effort. PGAIR also coordinates research and provides science-based recommendations reached by consensus to various stakeholders and decision-making bodies to help improve air quality.