

## Air Quality Council Meeting: May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Notes from the meeting held on Thursday May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 2:00 pm in the  
ACRD Board Room, 3008 Fifth Avenue, Port Alberni, BC

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Present:	Earle Plain (MOE) Sarah Thomas (Chair) Kathy McArthur (ACRD Environmental Services) Gary Swann (Community member) Kelly Gilday (Fire Department) Larry Cross (Catalyst Paper) Keith Wyton (ACRD) Keith Hunter (Tseshah) Patty Edwards (MLA's Office) Judy Carlson (Community at large)
Regrets:	Stephanie Bruvall (Island Health) Dave Jarrett (Community at large) Chris Alemany (City of Port Alberni) Andrew McGifford (ACRD Environmental Services)

### *Introductions & Check in*

Approval of the agenda.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes from March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Air Quality Council were accepted as distributed. Carried.

### **1. AQC Structure and Governance**

Air Quality Management	Takes a different form in different communities. In Port Alberni a stakeholder roundtable, the Air Quality Council, is convened by a non-profit, the Alberni Air Quality Society.
What is the role of each of the different organizations?	Air Quality Council (AQC) – Stakeholder roundtable. Comes together in the spirit of collaboration to further air quality goals.  Alberni Air Quality Society – organization that provides the legal framework and overarching governance for the AQC.  AQC member organizations – Committed to the mission and values of the AQC; Committed to the principle of constant improvement; Report back to constituency; Provide comment on materials and projects and support where possible.

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Next Steps	<p>City of Port Alberni – Active Participation in the AQC, firehall directly involved with education and outreach, meeting space, printing and promotion.</p> <p>Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District – Grant in aid which provides core funds to the Alberni Air Quality Society, active participation in the AQC, AQC website hosted on the ACRD website, meeting space.</p> <p>Action towards Strategic Plan (ie Airshed Management Plan light)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pull data together, identify targets and plan next steps.</li> <li>• Overarching framework and protocol to prevent air issues</li> <li>• Consider doing an Emissions Inventory</li> <li>• Further develop partnerships to further air quality goals</li> </ul> <p>Action: Seek funding to make this process possible.</p>
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## 2. Canadian Air Quality Standards - RED

Air Quality Management System	<p>Federal program which measures different air quality metrics. Splits the country into ‘air zones’. Port Alberni is in the Georgia Straight Air Zone.</p> <p>Based on a 3 year average.</p> <p>Report to come out in June. Port Alberni Red listed this year.</p> <p>See Information Sheet in Appendix 1.</p>
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## 3. Updates

Wood Stove Research Project	Data at Vancouver Island University for analysis.
Wood Stove Exchange 2017	The program is ongoing. Vouchers continue to be available at the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District.
ACRD open burning flyer	<p>The ACRD produced an open burning educational flyer. This is being mailed out in utility bills. Any further comments or suggestions for the flyer can be emailed to Kathy McArthur at <a href="mailto:kmcarthur@acrd.bc.ca">kmcarthur@acrd.bc.ca</a>.</p> <p><b>Action: Kathy to email the finished flyer to Keith Hunter for sharing with Tseshaht (<a href="mailto:firstnationswildcrafters@shaw.ca">firstnationswildcrafters@shaw.ca</a>).</b></p>
Cantimber	A letter, or rather two letters, were received from PAPA in response to the correspondence sent regarding the motions passed at the March AQC meeting.

The letters were dismissive of the issues at hand. It was decided that it would be important to respond and reiterate the concerns of the AQC.

**Action: Sarah to draft a letter and send it to the AQC for feedback. One week later, send letter to directors and all cc'd.** A Cantimber Working Group meeting is set for May 29. More information is expected at that time.

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#### 4. Catalyst

Stack testing report

Larry Cross gave an update of 2016 stack testing results.

Requirement for Catalyst to operate an SO<sub>2</sub> analyzer at PA Elementary for the last 3 years. Stack testing studies associated with use of Tire Derived Fuels (TDF) show very low SO<sub>2</sub> values. Consequently the monitor will be removed.

Emission Permit Levels

The question was raised as to whether Catalyst or the Ministry of Environment would consider reducing Catalyst's particulate matter emissions limit for the Power Boiler given that they consistently come in well below their limit.

- It was responded that permit adjustments are generally triggered by an application by the company.
- There is no provincial policy to review permit levels.
- It was understood that Catalyst does not have an intention to amend the permit at this time.

Dioxin/Furan tests

Updated Dioxin/Furan results as well as Greenhouse Gas Emissions were also discussed.

2017 Catalyst Sustainability Report, which should be posted soon, is available at:

<http://www.catalystpaper.com/investors/sustainability-reports>

See handout in Appendix 2.

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**Next Meeting** – September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 2pm, ACRD Board Room.

**Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.

# Appendix 2: Catalyst Update p 1.

Catalyst Paper, Port Alberni Division

May 11, 2017

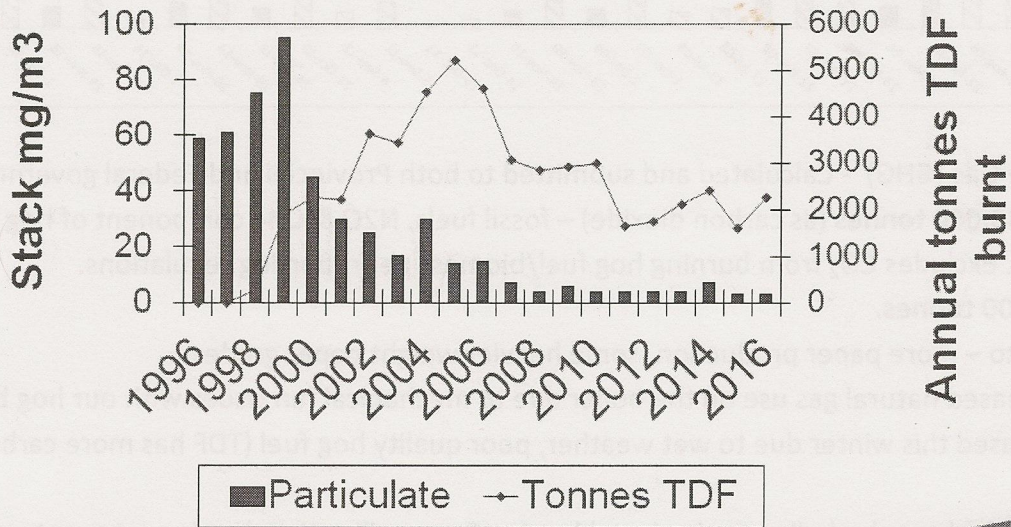
## 1. Stack particulate (quarterly stack tests)

2016 average = 3 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (range was 1-5 mg/m<sup>3</sup>)

2015 average = 3 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

Permit limit = 115 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (annual average)

## ANNUAL AVERAGE PARTICULATE EMISSION CONCENTRATION AT STACK



## 2. Power Boiler Dioxin & Furan annual stack test

2 tests Nov. 29, Dec. 1

Test 1 – with TDF used = 0.04 ng/m<sup>3</sup>

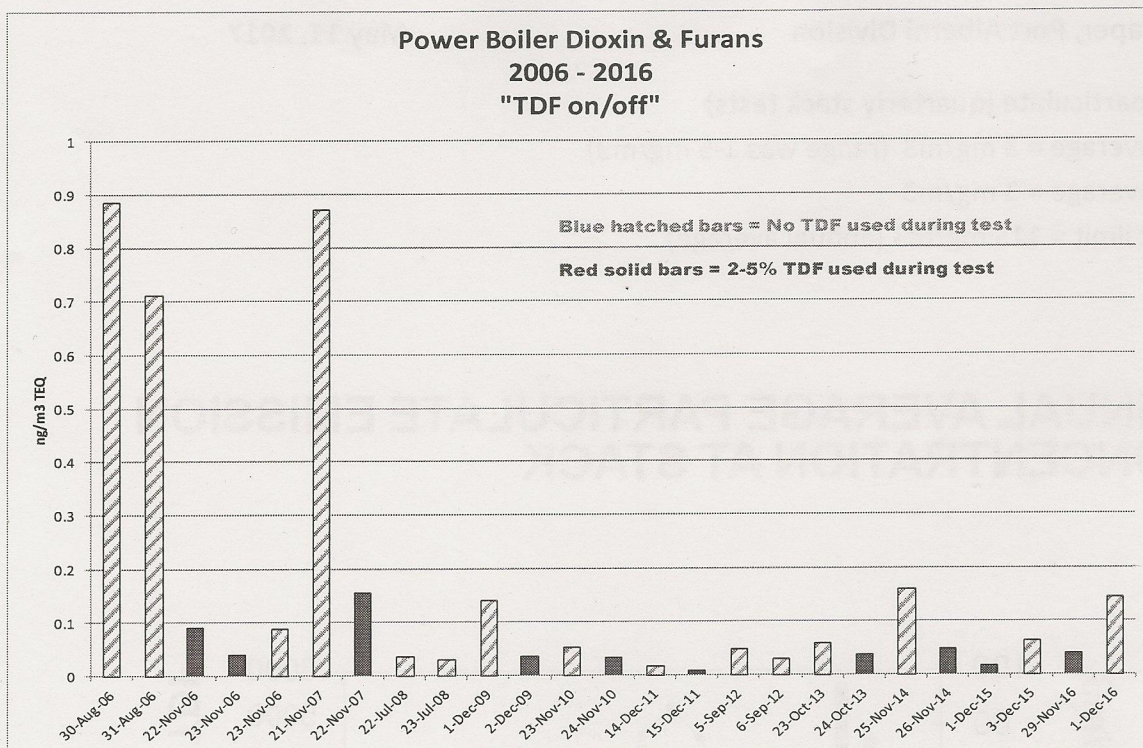
Test 2 – no TDF = 0.15 ng/m<sup>3</sup>

Similar to the range of historical results.

SEE CHART ON NEXT PAGE.

SOLID BARS = TDF used during test. Hatched bars = No TDF used during test.

# Appendix 2: Catalyst Update p 2.



3. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) - Calculated and submitted to both Provincial and Federal governments  
**2016: 38,000 tonnes** (as carbon dioxide) – fossil fuels, N<sub>2</sub>O & CH<sub>4</sub> component of hog fuel combustion. Excludes CO<sub>2</sub> from burning hog fuel/biomass per reporting regulations.

**2015 : 30,000 tonnes.**

Higher due to – more paper production, some heavier weight paper grades

- some increased natural gas use on the boiler due to mechanical fan issues with our hog boiler
- extra TDF used this winter due to wet weather, poor quality hog fuel (TDF has more carbon)

- **2017** – hog fuel supply challenges (reduced logging & sawmill activity); using extra natural gas

4. Other information

- a. Electric power demand management program this past winter (Catalyst mills reduced load during high demand periods by managing our pulp production/storage)
- b. Approval received to discontinue the ambient SO<sub>2</sub> measurement at the Alberni Elementary station (based on the results of 3 years operation)
- c. Catalyst Paper Sustainability Report will be on the web site next month
- d. Biron, Wisconsin mill shutdown coal burning boiler; replaced with natural gas and waste heat recovery
- e. Developing "Food Grade" papers (wrap, bags) and packaging
- f. Retirements & New employee hiring is ongoing

March 2014

## New Air Quality Management System

### Purpose

This document briefly outlines the new Air Quality Management System (AQMS) that is being implemented across Canada, and focuses on one of its key elements -- air zone management.

### What is the AQMS?

The AQMS is a new comprehensive air management system that is designed to better protect human health and the environment. It does this through:

- New [Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards](#) (CAAQS) to drive improvements in air quality,
- New Base-Level Industrial Emission Requirements (BLIERS) for major industries to set a consistent level of good performance across Canada,
- Air zone management that supports actions to improve air quality and keep clean areas clean,
- Enhanced coordination where air pollution crosses jurisdictional borders, and
- Increased collaboration on actions to reduce transportation emissions

### What is air zone management?

Under the AQMS, air zones are the basis for monitoring, reporting and taking action on air

quality. Air zones are areas that typically exhibit similar air quality characteristics, issues and trends. It is the responsibility of each province and territory to delineate and manage their air zones based on local conditions. The level of response is proportional to the level of air quality degradation, with guidance on appropriate actions described in the [Air Zone Management Framework](#).

### What are B.C.'s air zones?

B.C. has been delineated into a total of seven air zones, as shown in Figure 1. These include the Georgia Strait, Coastal, Lower Fraser Valley, Southern Interior, Central Interior, Northwest, and Northeast Air Zones.



Figure 1. New AQMS air zones in B.C.

**How will air zone management affect existing local airshed plans?**

Local air management plans have already been developed for a number of areas in the province. To avoid duplication of effort, air zone management plans in B.C. will be built upon existing local air management plans.

Where the CAAQS are being approached or exceeded, additional work may be required to ensure that good air quality is achieved. In such cases, the Ministry of Environment will work with affected stakeholders, including local air management committees, to develop the appropriate actions given local conditions.

**How will the public be informed?**

In late 2014, the province will begin annual reporting on air quality and the actions being taken to reduce air emissions. This information will be made available on the ministry's [BCairquality.ca](http://BCairquality.ca) website.

**How will air zone management affect industry?**

Stakeholders will continue to be engaged at the local level rather than the air zone level. The BLIERS are still under development for a number of sectors. As these are finalized, they will be published in the Canada Gazette Part 1. Similar to current practices, where local air quality levels exceed national standards, the Ministry will work with stakeholders to develop the appropriate response.

**What are key dates and activities for air zone management in B.C.?**

2014:

- Air zone management levels assigned to each air zone, as an element of first air zone reports
- First annual air zone reports produced

2015:

- CAAQS for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and ozone come into effect
- Air zone management plans developed based on management levels assigned in 2014
- Work begins on updating or developing local air management plans for areas where CAAQS are exceeded

2016:

- First national State of the Air Report produced in 2016 and every five years thereafter

**Final note**

This information is provided for the convenience of the reader and may change in the future. The Ministry of Environment should be consulted for complete information.

**Ministry Contact**

For more information, consult our website at: [www.bcairquality.ca/](http://www.bcairquality.ca/) or e-mail the Ministry at: [BCAirQuality@gov.bc](mailto:BCAirQuality@gov.bc). Additional details on the AQMS may be found on the website of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment ([CCME](http://CCME)).