

**Summary of EPA/NESCAUM-Sponsored Workshop on
Air Toxics Methodology Issues
October 8-9, 2003, Las Vegas, NV**

George Allen, NESCAUM

Target Audience:

SLT and EPA staff involved in ambient air toxics methods

Focus:

Particles, not gas-phase air toxics

Who's here: 42 SLT Agencies

AK DEC
AZ DEQ
Clark County NV DAQM
CO Dept. of Public Health & Environment
CT DEP
Hillsborough County, FL
FL DEP
GA EPD
HI State Dept.of Health
ID DEQ
IL EPA
IN Dept. of Environmental Management
KY Division for Air Quality
Maricopa County, AZ
ME DEP
Memphis/Shelby County TN Health Dept.
MI DEQ
MN MPCA
MO Dept. of Natural Resources, APCP
MS DEQ
NH DES
NJ DEP
NM Environment Dept.
NY SDEC
OK DEQ

OR DEQ
PA DEP, Air Quality
Pinellas County, Florida DEM
RI Dept. of Health
San Diego APCD
SC Dept. of Health & Environmental Control
UT Division of Air Quality
VA DEQ
Ventura County APCD
VT APCD
WA Dept. of Ecology
Washington, DC, Air Quality Division
Washoe County District Health Dept. [NV]
WI DNR
WV Div. of Air Quality
WY DEQ, Air Quality Division
Gila River Indian Community

LADCO
NESCAUM
U.S. EPA OAQPS
U.S. EPA/ESD
U.S. EPA/NAREL
U.S. EPA, Region 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9
Environment Canada
ERG
Sonoma Technology, Inc.

Summary of Major Topics covered:

1. Air Toxic Priorities [Palma]

What's driving the risk in air toxics?

Which compounds present the greatest risk?

2. Metals in the NATTs, STN and IMPROVE networks [various]

Program goals

Sampling/analysis methods

SOP availability, other QA/QC issues

3. Analysis of Metals Data to Date [Hafner]

What can/does analysis indicate about sampling and/or analytical methods issues?

4. Air Toxics "Indicators" [Allen]

Are they available/useful?

“Dream air toxics indicator site” concept

5. Care and feeding of Aethalometers [Allen]

Configuration, Operation

New data handling application (the WU-AQL “Masher”)

Simplifying data submittal to AQS

Break-Out Sessions

Sampling Methods

Analysis Methods

National Network Consistency

Data Analysis

Issues raised that are relevant to our haze work:

Meta-data are important and often insufficient

[VIEWS example: are IMPROVE aerosol data at local T/P or STP?]

General concerns about comparability across major networks for metals and other elements (except S - usually) – different sampling AND analysis

Standardized sampling techniques and (more) Interlab comparisons needed

Treatment of < MDL and “non-detect peak” data in primary database is:

[a] critical and

[b] inconsistent across parameters and agencies

Presentations, summaries of breakout and workshop topics at:

<http://bronze.nescaum.org/toxicworkshop/>

[Still being updated; final later this month]