

Summary for November 20, 2008 Oil & Gas Workgroup Call

This Call was the third held with interested O&G Stakeholders, the purpose being to bring participants up to date with the progress on the WRAP/IPAMS Phase III O&G Emission Inventory Project, and to discuss other issues surrounding O&G field activities. Mobile Source Emissions associated with O&G Field Operations have emerged as a primary concern of Stakeholders as these emissions are not covered under Phase III.

- 11/20 Call Agenda ([PDF](#) or [DOC](#))
- 11/20 Mobile Sources Pilot Project Outline [PDF](#) or [DOC](#)

Call Summary:

We continue to have strong interest in this area, with about 25 participants from State Air Agencies, Tribal Representatives, Federal Land Managers, EPA, Environmental Interest Groups and O&G Industry representatives on the call.

Phase III Emission Inventory Project Progress: To begin, Environ Staff went through the status of the Phase III effort, with work proceeding on the Uinta and Piceance Basin inventories, the North and South San Juan Basins, and now beginning on Wyoming O&G Basins. The Denver-Julesburg Basin inventories have been completed for some time now, and are posted on the WRAP website, accessed from the “Phase III Inventories” link from the “Oil & Gas Workgroup” page at: http://www.wrapair.org/forums/ogwg/PhaseIII_Inventory.html

No new inventories have been posted since our last call, but it was noted that work on the North San Juan 2006 and 2012 inventories is essentially complete, with only final IPAMS review to be finished before being made public. It is expected that these North San Juan Basin inventories will be made available around the first week in December. And work is proceeding on the South San Juan Basin, with the 2006 inventory very close to done, and the some final survey results to be obtained and reviewed for the 2012 inventory. Posting of those South San Juan baseline and mid-term inventories is expected to occur sequentially in late December, or possibly early January.

Regarding the Uinta and Piceance Basin results, Environ reported that the baseline and mid-term work is essentially complete, but that IPAMS wanted to release the inventories in context with the results of a separate modeling effort for the Uinta Basin called the Uinta Basin Air Quality Study (UBAQS) where these two basin inventories play a critical role. It is now anticipated that this UBAQS modeling will be complete around the first of the year, and the whole package of Uinta and Piceance Basin inventories will be released by late January '09.

With release of these new inventories imminent, participants were encouraged to review that work and provide any feedback promptly. The whole purpose of reviewing the IPAMS work with this public Stakeholder group is to assure that it is broadly distributed and critically evaluated, such that in the end all interested parties can be assured of the inventories' integrity and the results can be widely accepted for a variety of air quality evaluation requirements.

Next up are the four Wyoming Basins (Powder River, Big Horn, Wind River & Southwest Wyoming [Green River]). Surveys were sent out to Wyoming producers around the first part

of November for the first three of these basins, but because industry and the Wyoming DEQ have recently completed extensive inventory work, IPAMS and Environ are looking over that Southwest Wyoming work to see if it meets the data criteria and can be adapted for use in the current project.

Following the Wyoming work, Environ will turn their attention to the Montana and North Dakota basins targeted for completion in mid-Spring of 2009. The final piece of the project will be to establish an agreed upon methodology for making the long-term (2018) projections. This is being left to last because the longer look into the future engenders significant uncertainty, thus results are necessarily more controversial. There was interest on the call of bringing that methodology before the Workgroup's scrutiny as soon as there is progress on finalizing that methodology.

Oil & Gas Operations Mobile Source Emissions: On our last call we talked about the on and non-road Mobile Source Emissions associated with O&G operations, and after that call we solicited volunteers for a Mobile Source Committee from amongst Workgroup membership to look at some project to quantify and evaluate these emissions. The Committee helped form the Pilot Project Outline that was distributed prior to the call and resides on the WRAP Call calendar at: <http://www.wrapair.org/cal/calendar.php?op=view&id=858>

This date, I went over that outline for the benefit of the balance of the Workgroup. It includes a "Purpose" which will do two things: first it will quantify the emission totals of "mobile" onroad & nonroad emissions sources present in O&G Field operations, and second it will make estimates of the relative contribution of these mobile" emissions as compared to the point and area source emissions already captured in the existing IPAMS/WRAP Phase III O&G Emission Inventory. The study would use the existing EPA MOBILE and NONROAD models to look at sources ranging from heavy duty diesel trucks to gasoline work and service vehicles on-road, and a variety of heavy duty construction equipment and miscellaneous relocatable engines that operate off-road in the O&G fields. The study would look at criteria pollutants, with an option to include Greenhouse Gasses and Toxics. Particulate would be calculated for engine exhaust, tire & brake wear and fugitive emissions from construction, with another option to try and quantify road dust. The outline identified necessary activity data and identified alternative methods of obtaining the vehicle mileage (VMT) that would be used in the calculations. And it identified a critical question of "reconciliation" with existing County level on and nonroad emission inventories as a challenge to interpreting the final results. These mobile inventories would be synchronized with the Phase III inventory 2006 baseline and projection years.

The point was made that this outline now must be turned into a written Scope of Work so that the WRAP can determine total cost, and then a source of funding must be identified. It is anticipated that WRAP states with significant O&G field activity would be interested in funding such an effort. And as a limited Pilot Project, it would be critical that the results are mostly representative to be "expandable" to the more universal O&G activity around the west. The Mobile Emissions Committee has tentatively targeted operations in Southwest Wyoming as being a potential location for the Pilot study.

Call Schedule: The Workgroup is trying to schedule bi-monthly follow-up calls on the progress of Phase III, and picked January 22, 2009 at 10 AM Mountain time for the next call. New Phase III basin inventories will be available then for review, and an update will be made

on this Mobile Emissions project. In addition, Tom Moore will look into obtaining a report from EPA's Kevin Easley on national strategies surrounding the O&G industry.