

# Trail Area Health & Environment Committee



## MINUTES

**Meeting: March 4, 2014**  
**City of Trail – Committee Room #2**  
**7:00 pm**

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### **Committee Members in Attendance:**

Dieter Bogs, Chair, City of Trail  
Gord DeRosa, Alternate Chair, City of Trail  
Mark Tinholt, Teck Trail Operations  
Brandi Thirsk, Community Rep.  
Brad McCandlish, BC Ministry of Environment

Ron Joseph, Community Rep.  
John Crozier, Councillor, Village of Warfield  
Marylyn Rakuson, Community Rep.  
Jeannine Stefani, Interior Health  
Sonia Tavares, Community Rep.

### **Others in Attendance:**

Megan Klammer, Interior Health  
Richard Deane, Teck Trail Operations  
Andrea McCormick, SNC-Lavalin Inc.  
Liz Anderson, Program Administrator  
Bill Jankola, Teck Trail Operations

Bruce Enns, SNC-Lavalin Inc.  
Cindy Hall, SNC-Lavalin Inc.  
Ruth Beck, Program Manager  
Dawn Tomlin, Interior Health  
Trevor Thirsk, Community member

### **MEETING MINUTES: January 14, 2014**

**Motion** to adopt the minutes from January 14, 2014; Brad McCandlish moved; Gord DeRosa seconded. Carried.

### **REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS:**

#### ***Program Agreement:***

#### ***Presentation: Draft THEP Agreement – Ruth Beck and Mark Tinholt***

Mark Tinholt summarized the purpose of the program agreement as well as the reasoning that led up to the creation of an agreement that serves as a Wide Area Remediation Plan (WARP). Appendix A contains the regulatory details for the Ministry of Environment. Appendix B details Teck Metals project gating process.

Ruth Beck led a PowerPoint presentation on the Program Agreement and pointed out that the Family Health section (7 pages) will not be inserted into the agreement until after Interior Health (IH) has had an opportunity to review it (expected by June).

Gord DeRosa pointed out that the Program initiated in 1988 not 1990.

Ruth requested that the THEC review the document and provide comments. The agreement should read as 'the story' of the program; we want to hear about anything that works well or needs improvement. We also want to know if there is anything missing or confusing; and if there are any questions or suggestions. Several specific questions were highlighted for THEC discussion:

1. *The proposal by Dr. Larder to monitor blood lead levels in outlying communities (Warfield, Annable, Oasis, Casino and Waneta) every five years.*

There was discussion about the inclusion of Annable. Mark Tinholt pointed out that after reviewing soil analyses, dustfall data and pooled blood lead results (several years of results) for Annable, it does not appear that Annable should be included in the core program area. It was agreed that the research used would be shared with the rest of the THEC. John Crozier stated that there would likely be some families voluntarily bringing their children for testing on a yearly basis. Jeannine Stefani pointed out that blood lead testing has always been available to people outside the core program area upon request. A decision on this question was deferred to the next meeting.

2. *The New Program Area Map (p. 5).*  
The new map consolidates the four maps that previously showed the different geographical areas for the different program components. Ruth encouraged the THEC to take a look and provide feedback or any questions raised.  
**ACTION:** Liz to attach separate map when emailing the document to THEC.
3. *Target Participation Rate in the Healthy Families Healthy Homes (HFHH) Program (Sec. 3, p.15, also p. 34). To have at least 75% participation in the HFHH program each year.*  
Brad asked what metrics were used to determine the participation rate. Jeannine explained that the rate matches the goal for BLL testing, and that for Healthy Families the final determination of the annual participation rate will be retrospective; how many were on the list and how many participated. Cindy Hall explained that for Healthy Homes, we start the year with a certain number of families on a contact list. At the end of the year we will compare the number of families visited to the total number of families on that list, keeping in mind that the total will change as we find new families.  
**MOTION:** To accept the target participation rate of 75%; Ron Joseph moved; Marylynn Rakuson seconded. Carried.
4. *New Upper Cap Concentration for lead in the CSR: 4000 ppm rather than 5000 ppm.*  
Mark explained that the regulation is the basis for our remediation goals and as such, it is recommended that we change our target to coincide with the CSR. There was discussion about the numbers. Ruth clarified that 4000 ppm is the proposed target for yards and 1000 ppm (unchanged) for vegetable gardens. Mark added that the remediation goal for gardens of 1000 ppm comes from the Human Health Risk Assessment rather than the CSR. Bruce Enns stated that there is also some room for movement around the number; if a garden assessment shows the lead in the soil to be greater than 950 but less than 1000, they will remediate the garden.  
**MOTION:** To accept 4000 ppm lead as a new target for yard remediation; John Crozier moved; Brad McCandlish seconded. Carried.  
Mark indicated that the Long Term Soil (LTS) Study is giving us some information on recontamination and that people are looking for more information on metals other than lead such as cadmium. John stated that new younger families are moving in to the area (Warfield and Annable) and community officials are uncertain as to what they should tell people about cadmium and other metals. It was agreed that the committee should refresh their knowledge about the other metals and that it would be addressed at one of the two upcoming THEC meetings (May or July); this will include a coherent understanding of the key issues and the questions that come up. Mark and Ruth reminded the committee that the THEP website provides access to the Human Health Risk Assessment and good FAQ section.  
**ACTION:** Mark, Ruth and Bruce to prepare a “refresher” on health risks from metals other than lead. Timing to be either May or July THEC meetings.  
Gord asked if the yards that were tested in 2007 that were close to 4000 ppm lead would be over 4000 in 2014. Bruce explained that it is unlikely based on the results coming from the LTS.
5. *Changing the name ‘Greening Program’ to ‘Planting Program’.*  
Teck requests that the THEC change the title of this program to Planting Program. Dieter Bogs indicated that “greening” is already a part of our vocabulary. John Crozier pointed out that kudos are due to Communities in Bloom (CiB) as well. Dieter added that CiB has moved to a sustainability program; they wrestled with whether they should change their name and decided not to. No motion was made as it was agreed that the THEC would leave the name as it is.
6. *The Agreement Section text, Section 7, p.48.*  
Mark explained that the signatory page contains the spirit of an agreement but not a contractual agreement. After getting legal advice, a paragraph was added to address that. It raises a question: is this the point of the signatory page? A discussion was held as to the merits and drawbacks of the agreement section. There was general assent that a legal agreement is too strong, but there should be an element of commitment. Questions raised included: would you list a date the agreement was signed? The committee evolves, how would that be addressed? Who signs the agreement if not all THEC members are actively attending the meetings? Dieter raised the point of the agreement being a WARP and if that will create a legal agreement when it's adopted via the Ministry of Environment (MoE). Brad stated that he is comfortable signing it as a committee member of THEC, but there may be future legal implications. It was brought up that if

we take "Agreement" off the title of the document, it would be easier for Teck and Interior Health to sign the document. It was agreed that further discussion should be deferred until Graham Kenyon is present.

Ron asked if the THEC should write a letter to USWA 480 (the Steelworkers Union local) to see if they can propose a volunteer who is more interested in attending the meetings. **To follow up:** Gord DeRosa to have a conversation with the appropriate person at USWA 480.

Next steps for the THEP Agreement: the document will be sent out electronically; if any members want additional hard copies we'll provide those. **To follow up:** Dieter will discuss with City Council as to whether they want hard copies now or when the document is final. THEC was asked to review the document and provide feedback by the end of March 2014. The comments and questions will be consolidated by April 18 and the document will come back to the THEC's next meeting (May 13, 2014). Further reviews will happen as needed after May 13 and it is hopeful that the Family Health section will be ready in June. A third review will take place at the subsequent THEC meeting (suggested July 8, 2014). Submission to MoE for comments will happen some time after that.

### **Air Quality**

#### **Teck Update – Mark Tinholt; report attached**

The last quarter of last year saw the lowest values of lead in total suspended particulate since 2007. The annual average for arsenic was 0.011 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, which is 0.001 µg/m<sup>3</sup> off the target.

#### **Presentation: Fugitive Dust Reduction Program Update – Bill Jankola; PowerPoint attached**

Bill presented an update on the Fugitive Dust Reduction Program. The goal is to start construction of the next project, the Smelter Recycle Building, in early 2015 (following KIVCET shutdown); it will take about a year to build. Mark mentioned that the first project, Tadanac North, is built. The smelter recycle plant is right next to Tadanac which is why it's the next priority. Dawn Tomlin asked if any consideration is given to the timing of moving materials prior to building the smelter recycle building, noting that summer is the time of greatest lead exposure for children. Bill replied that Teck would be taking actions, such as wetting the materials, to minimize dust. It was asked how Teck estimates fugitive emissions, Bill explained that Teck used an EPA modeling methodology when estimating fugitive emissions. Two different methods were used to estimate emissions and they yielded similar results.

Discussion was held about the loading depot at Waneta and whether the trucks are washed as they exit or if the roadway has been tested for metals. There has been a full soil study (site assessment) in that area; there are some metals concentrations right at the loading area, but not so much on the roadway. The conversation continued with an enquiry into the health and safety of the employees at the Waneta loading area. Jeannine mentioned that she has heard about this place during her home visits. She has a conversation with families about worker carry-home and has heard feedback that there isn't much action around preventing lead dust carry-home from that particular facility. Trevor Thirsk commented that he doesn't know of any education being given to the contractors and that he hasn't experienced many supports being provided for clean up. From his observations, he is concerned that there isn't the same level of enforcement as there is at Teck.

**ACTION:** Teck (Mark Tinholt and Richard Deane), or possibly Trimac, to come back with a presentation and answers regarding the control of fugitive dust at the Waneta loading depot.

#### **Air Quality Technical Working Group Update – Mark Tinholt; meeting minutes attached**

There was smaller attendance to the most recent meeting, so the topics will be covered again at the next meeting. Mark requested feedback regarding if there is an easier way to get attendance to the meetings. Currently they're held at Teck; would it be better to have a net-meeting or move it to another location? Ron thinks Teck is a good location. Dieter stated that the poor attendance at the last meeting was more a result of bad timing. Gord also doesn't have a problem with location. Brad requested that Teck provide the option of a net-meeting as well.

## **Family Health**

### ***IH Update – Jeannine Stefani; report attached***

Jeannine summarized the activities at the Winter 2014 blood lead clinics. There were 65 children invited, 39 attended 63% participation (38 samples obtained). There were 36 venous samples (95%). Jeannine expects lab results by the end of the week.

Case management (CM) update: there are 41 case management children, including 9 repeats. This includes children who had capillary testing in the fall.

Healthy Families home visit update; Jeannine has completed 14 visits this year. The current participation rate for families who have been contacted is 80%.

Jeannine also provided an update on the Ages and Stages Day (FAN) scheduled for March 12 and organized by Sonia Tavares. Jeannine handed out Ages and Stages posters to THEC for distribution.

One correction to the IH Update: Jeannine will be attending the Beaver Valley Adventure Picnic on June 9, 2014.

Discussion took place regarding testing unborn kids for lead. There was a study by Cheryl Yates (in the 1990s) where they tested the mother's BLL and child's BLL at birth and compared Trail residents to residents outside Trail. There was no difference found, mother's BLL is typically not a risk factor for child's BLL, however, the sample size was small. Jeannine noted that if a pregnant woman is in a higher risk situation for lead exposure, it can be a trigger to test the mom. Megan Klammer stated that this could be looked into further.

**ACTION:** Mark, Jeannine and Ruth to follow up and investigate the issue of preventing lead exposure to newborns.

### ***Family Action Network Update – Ruth Beck;***

FAN has received a grant for \$80,000 over 2 years that is approved to fund 1) an online one-stop resource directory 2) Ages and Stages screening day – making it portable 3) hiring a Regional Social Sector Capacity Building Coordinator (hopefully by May). There is a fourth project ongoing; to identify locations for Comfort Stations (family-friendly washrooms), which is now at a stage where the next steps will be laid out in a report by Ann Damude by March 31. FAN would like to see the first Comfort Station open by June/early summer. The fifth project involves Mike Stolte, the new facilitator, who has been establishing relationships with the business community; conversations have been had with LCCDT, LCIC, and Chamber president. There is a FAN Advisory meeting coming up some time in the last 2 weeks in May (after the new coordinator is in place). In addition, Ruth is working with Mike Stolte regarding the upcoming Phase II Lit Review authors' on-site visit.

## **Home & Garden**

### ***Community Program Office Report – Cindy Hall; report attached***

Healthy Homes visits: there have been 8 visits thus far in 2014. Supports (garden kits, dusting kits, sandboxes, etc.) will be provided in the spring as a method of re-connecting with families.

Vacuum replacement program: there have been 34 vacuums given to families since January (46 total).

Cindy noted that a lot of activity in the Community Program Office is as a result of the vacuum program. Cindy will be attending Ages and Stages on March 12, 2014.

## **Program Planning & Operations**

### ***Program Manager's Report – Ruth Beck; report attached***

Ruth reminded the Committee that the May newsletter will be created soon and gave an overview of the proposed content. The new acid plant at Teck is almost completed. Richard Deane explained that the acid plant will reduce SO<sub>2</sub> levels by 10-15%. Ruth could talk to Catherine Adair (Teck) to get a statement for the THEC newsletter once the plant is completed.

**ACTION:** Ruth to talk to Catherine Adair re. the acid plant and fugitive emissions projects.

This Spring Newsletter will also contain an insert that will be a friendly reminder aimed at reinforcing key messages around dust reduction in the summer. Sonia Tavares noted that the Kootenay Family Magazine is coming out three times a year and the next one is set to come out at the end of the month. Rather than THEP being in every issue, they would like to put an article about THEP for the summer issue. Jeannine suggested one emphasis could be the benefits of outdoor play. Megan suggested they could also highlight working public washrooms/hand washing stations.

**ACTION:** Jeannine Stefani and the Community Program Office to look into this.

Ruth provided an update on the Phase II Literature Review with a reminder that the focus of the lit review is the factors other than blood lead that affect early childhood development, as well as the benefits and effectiveness of home visits and community collaborative initiatives. The lit review is a compilation rather than an analysis of the literature: there is a lot of information and we want to know how best to use it. There is an upcoming on-site visit by the authors of the lit review. Ruth is looking forward to a collaborative visit that will include two or three people from the UBC team (the lit review authors), members from FAN, THEC members, and others. The visit will be a two day event including a public forum in the evening of the first day that might encompass information from the lit review, the EDI and other studies (such as the child poverty report card). The on-site visit is intended to assist in assessing how a community group can make sense of the document as it pertains to the issues they're facing. Jeannine noted that the lit review topics were identified as areas to learn about during development of the THEP Agreement. Megan asked whether THEC had commissioned the literature review and if the information was proprietary. Ruth replied that there is no holdback on the information. Mark added that the rationale as to why we commissioned it is described on p.10 of the THEP Agreement.

Ruth brought up the recent situation where THEC's media release was posted on an online blog where it led to a variety of public comments. It was agreed that, in that instance and going forward, the THEC will reply to posts of that nature with the following: "THEC meetings are open to the public and the media" and we will provide contact info for the CPO and the THEP website.

Ruth announced that we have a new WorkSafeBC contact that is very helpful and contributing good information for the contractor fact sheet.

Mark asked the committee if they would consent to receiving relevant news releases whenever Teck Trail Operations issues one to the public. The committee agreed that this would be a good idea.

Meeting adjourned 9:13pm

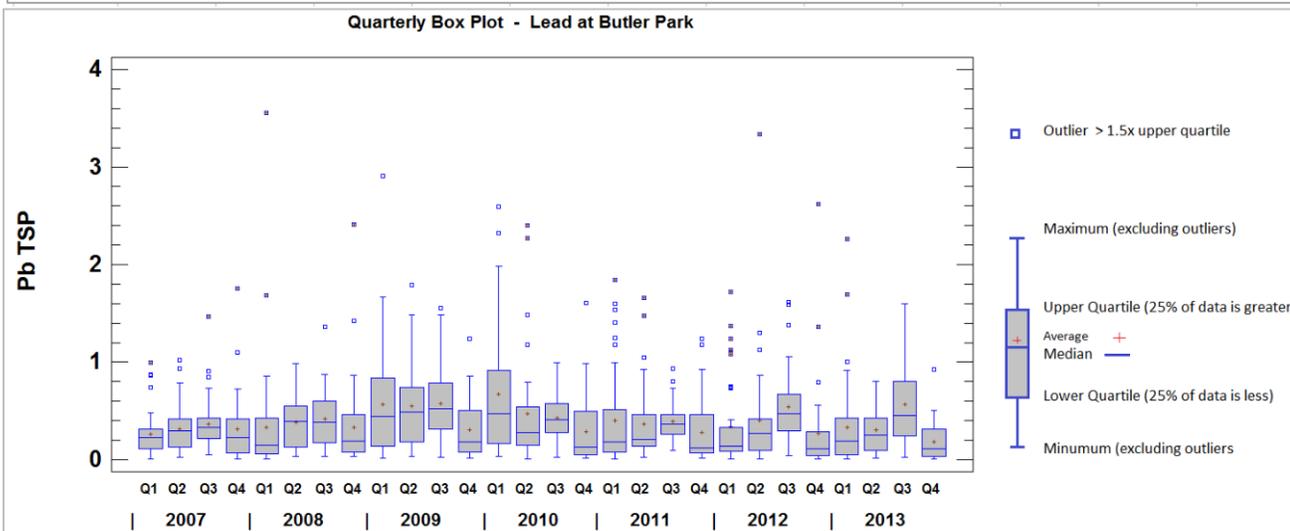
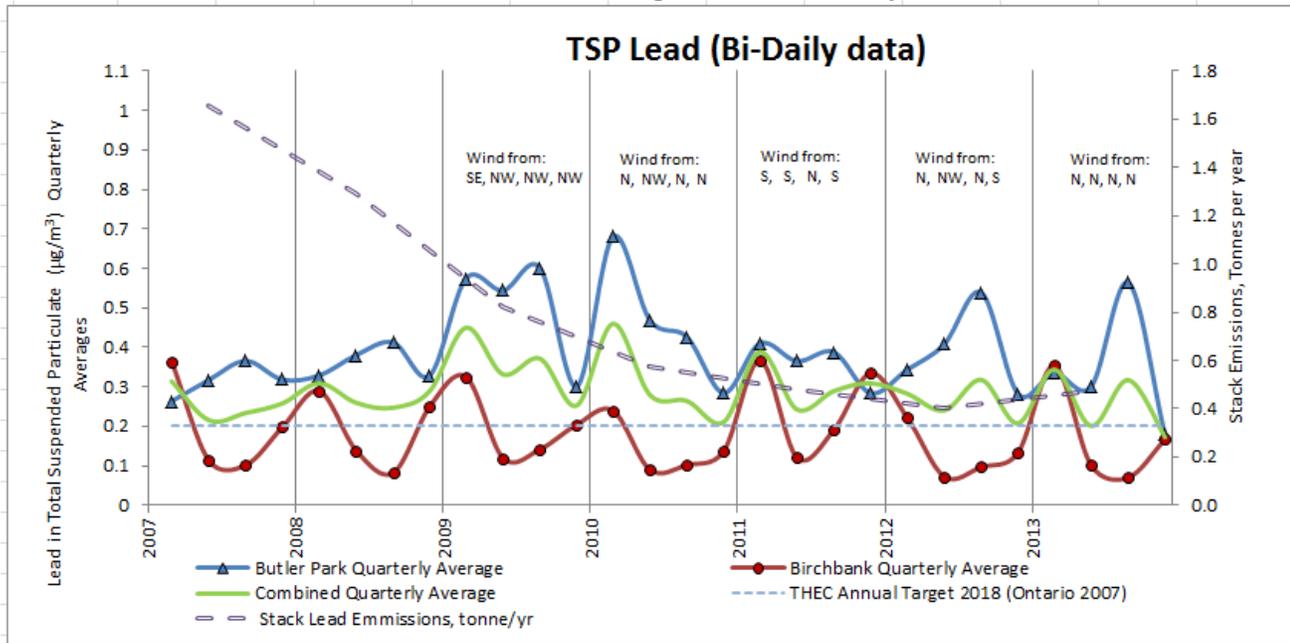
**NEXT MEETING: May 13, 2014**

# Trail Health & Environment Committee – Teck Report Mar 4, 2014

## Air Quality Program

### Lead – Total Suspended Particulate:

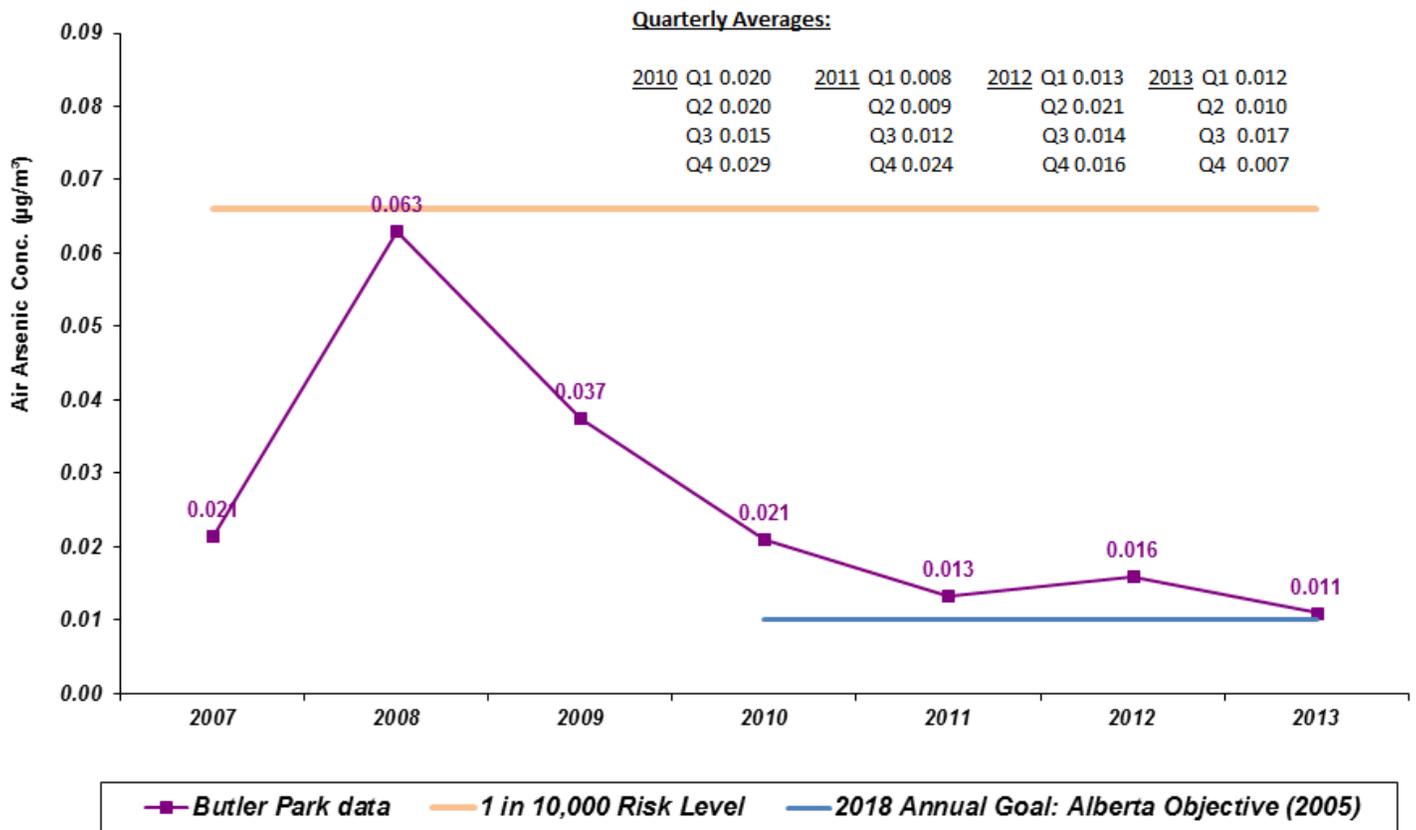
- The first graph shows ambient (community) levels for the Butler Park and Birchbank monitoring stations based on quarterly averages of Bi-Daily data (rather than NAPS day -6 day- data), measured stack emissions (annual basis), as well as predominant wind direction (quarterly, as measured at Maintenance Services Building). The second Box-Plot graph for Butler Park is included to provide data transparency at the request of the technically savvy committee members.
- Quarterly averages for Lead in ambient air at Butler Park continue to follow a typical seasonal trend, with varying influences of predominant wind. The combined average is generally consistent with previous years, with some seasonal variation. The levels for August 2014 at Butler Park were elevated; a full investigation was undertaken to determine the cause, and corrective actions were taken both to fix the issue and to prevent re-occurrence.
- Both real-time XACT monitors (one at Butler Park and the second at Duncan, located north of Metallurgical Operations) are operational.
- Measured stack emissions have continued to be less than 0.5 tonnes/year. The discrepancy in trends between stack emissions and measured TSP in air is believed to be sourced from fugitive dust.
- Trail smelter's releases of lead to air are still amongst lowest in industry.



**Arsenic– PM10:**

- Arsenic in ambient (community) air had returned to pre-2004 levels in 2011. Improvements appear to be the results of actions taken at the Continuous Drossing Furnace and Refinery Scrubber Stack.
- 2013 yearly average was 0.011 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, similar to previous 2 years.
- Trail smelter’s releases of arsenic to air are amongst lowest in industry.

**Annual Average PM10 Air Arsenic Levels  
Butler Park Station**





## Trail Operations Fugitive Dust Reduction Update

March 2014

## Trail Operation's Fugitive Emissions



Using direct measurements and EPA estimation techniques the sources of fugitive dust at Trail Operations have been estimated as follows

Source	Estimate (tonnes/yr Lead)
<b>Open Material Handling Areas:</b>	
• Tadanac North	1
• Smelter Recycle	10
• Zn Con. Storage	16
<b>Roadways</b>	11
<b>Process Buildings:</b>	
• KIVCET	6
• Lead Refinery	1
• Others	1
<b>Total</b>	46

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## Trail Operation's 5-Year Fugitive Emission Reduction Plan



### Address major emission sources:

- Enclosures
  - Tadanac North
  - Smelter Recycle Building
  - Roaster
- Dust Control
  - Wheel washing
  - Street flushing and sweeping
  - Stockpiles
- Building sources
- Employees

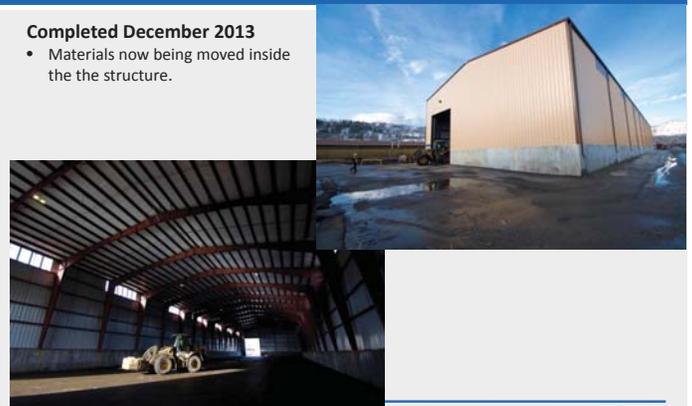
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## Enclosure Tadanac North Building



### Completed December 2013

- Materials now being moved inside the structure.



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## Enclosure Smelter Recycle Building



### Building size and requirements being finalized

- Reviewing options to ensure capital is effectively used to meet all needs
- Sizing and internal components to be finalized by end of April 2014
- Advance to feasibility and then for approval to proceed with construction
- Plans developed to remove materials currently stored in the construction area and storage of materials during the construction phase
- Target construction following the 2014 KIVCET shutdown

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## Dust Control



### Wheel wash

- **Wheel wash at Tadanac Beach/Flats**
  - Collects up to 5 tonnes/week of sludge
- **Wheel wash at exit from Red Dog Zn unloading**
  - Use by trucks hauling Zn residue and concentrates
  - Ready for commissioning (in use in 2014)
- **Exit truck wash at Main Gate**
  - Two improvements being pursued:
    - Convert to similar wheel wash unit as found at Beach and Red Dog unloading
    - Make the unit useable year-round



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## Dust Control



### Road Sweeping & flushing

- Target 4500 hours in 2014
  - Similar levels in 2012 and 2013.
- Sweepers collecting ~35 tonnes/week of sludge
  - Sludge collection should decrease if wheel wash units are effective



### Stockpiles during dry weather

- **Sprinklers**
  - Beach area
  - Roaster pad area
- **Spraying active stockpiles**
  - End of each day

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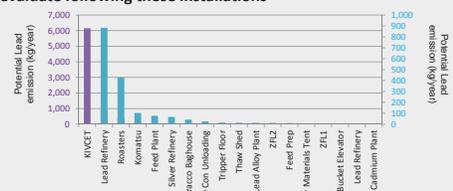
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## Building Sources



### KIVCET building

- **Main single source of building fugitive lead emissions**
- **Improved ventilation at the Clinker Crusher**
  - Work commenced in 2013, complete March 2014
- **KIVCET burner ventilation**
  - Installation to be complete following the 2014 shutdown by year-end
- **Re-evaluate following these installations**



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## Building Sources



### Concentrate unloading (Komatsu Building)

- Dry concentrates source of dusting
  - Moisture control at Vancouver Wharves implemented in 2013

### Refinery

- Engineering study underway to establish solution
  - Target installation in 2015

### Roasters

- Engineering study to be initiated in 2014
  - Target installation in 2016

## Employee Awareness



### Crewtalks underway to ensure employees are aware of the issues:

- Reduced Ambient Air targets
- Impact between Ambient Air and Children's Blood Lead
  - Target children's blood lead
- How they can assist Trail Operations in achieving the new goals

# Trail Health & Environment Committee Air Quality Technical Working Group MINUTES

Meeting: Monday, Feb 3, 2014



## In Attendance:

Mark Tinholt, Teck, Secretary  
Brad McCandlish, BC MoE (via phone)  
Gord DeRosa, City of Trail  
Bill Jankola, Teck

## Regrets:

Ron Joseph, Community Rep, Chair  
Dieter Bogs, City of Trail  
Peter Golden, Teck  
Richard Deane, Teck  
Suzanne Belanger, Teck  
Graham Kenyon, Community Rep

## MEETING MINUTES:

1. Only four were able to make the meeting – may do net meetings in future to facilitate easier attendance.
2. Topics included:
  - o Annual Dustfall data review
  - o Household furnace intakes/filters
  - o Fugitive Dust Reduction Program update
    - Air Quality Section of THEP
    - Status report on SFU study
    - Project Update
  - o E&M acid mist studies update
3. Discussion points:
  - o Are there particles smaller than the sampling filters catch present in the air, particularly since switch to a finer concentrate mid 2000's? The concentration is finer, but particle size still greater than PM10. Also monitoring of PM2.5 (e.g. 2.5 micron particles) has been done in the past and phased implementation of permanent PM2.5 monitoring is being looked at.
  - o Why is dustfall higher in winter? There are multiple lines of evidence that emissions in general are trapped in valley bottom by winter inversions; cold dry conditions also a factor,
  - o Furnaces presumably oxidize lead sulphides in the air. Oxides are typically more bioavailable.
  - o Recommendation:
    - Collect furnace air filter data during HFHH (e.g. what type of heating in the home, are filters in place, how often changed), then could examine correlation of air filter issues with case management situations.
    - Consider an air furnace study – this would first require a proper study design
4. Since most of us missed the meeting, propose that all the above be revisited/reviews at the next meeting.
5. Next meeting: to be scheduled Q2 2014

## **Trail Area Health & Environment Committee**

### **Interior Health Family Health Report**

**March 4, 2014**

#### **1. February Clinic**

- Done February 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.
- 65 invited
  - o 38 samples obtained. 36 were venous samples (95%)
  - o 14 unable to attend ie. child sick, forgot and unable to rebook
  - o 7 no shows
  - o 3 moved
  - o 2 not interested
  - o 1 unable to obtain sample
  - o 63% participation rate

#### **2. Case Management from Fall 2013 clinic**

- 18 case management cases closed - families from Fall 2012 clinic
- 41 new case management children (includes 9 repeat from Fall 2012)
  - o 28 home visits
  - o 10 phone call contact
  - o Unable to contact 3, but 2 came for February clinic

#### **3. Healthy Families Visits**

- 148 on list for 2013 (kids born from September 1, 2011 18 kids, born 2012 69 kids, born 2013 61 kids)
- 53 visits done in 2013, 11 done with Case Management visit
- 12 visits done in 2014, 4 booked
- 17 attempted contact to arrange visit with no response
- 3 declined
- 8 lost/moved
- 80% participation rate of those contacted

#### **4. Community Education**

- Attending local Pregnancy Outreach Program (Building Beautiful Babies) monthly
- Ages and Stages Day March 12 at Kiro
- Unable to attend last Expectant Pregnancy Event in October, represented by Home and Garden Program. To attend next one in June.
- Attending the Beaver Valley Expectant Parent Event June 9 with Home and Garden Program
- Will attend Teddy Bear Picnic in June (date TBC)



3. Community Outreach and Engagement
  - a. Community Program Office - Public Contact Summary
    - i. January : 30 walk-ins and 19 phone calls
    - ii. February: 45 walk-ins and 8 phone calls
  - b. Engagement Activities
    - i. February 25-26<sup>th</sup> - attended the annual winter follow-up Blood Lead Clinic
    - ii. Upcoming: March 12<sup>th</sup> - will be attending the FAN Ages & Stages Day at the Kiro Wellness Centre

## **THEP Program Manager's Report**

### **March 4, 2014**

#### **1. Program Agreement**

One of my priorities over the past nine months has been the THEP Agreement. Working closely with Ruth Hull and the Working Group, I have been supporting the development of the main report (draft being presented at the March 4 THEC meeting).

#### **2. Second phase literature review**

The THEP Lit Review Reviewers Group met by phone on February 17 to review the draft Phase 2 literature review. The group had wide-ranging perspectives on the lit review, in part reflecting their diverse backgrounds. Dr. Nelson Ames and others noted that the lit review is a "great reference document" and that it "affirms a lot of what we're doing". Comments and suggestions for small refinements to the document were made. It was recognized that the next step will be to make this information "real" for Trail – that is, using the lit review to explore questions such as "what does the Trail area look like from the perspective of early childhood development?" Sonia noted that, to do this, we need updated information on the locally-available services, supports and amenities available for young families.

I met with the research team, Michelle Wiens, Brenda Poon and Joanne Schroeder from the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) on February 20 at UBC. We reviewed the THEP feedback and began planning the on-site visit by the research team. We are looking for dates in June that will work for THEP, HELP and the FAN. The precise activities are being worked out, but will include one or more events that would be open to the public.

#### **3. Communications**

As all of THEC are aware, our media release regarding the 2013 blood lead results was posted to an on-line media blog that reached readers in Rossland, Nelson and potentially further afield. Readers posted comments on-line. THEC posted a response, informing readers that THEC meetings are open to the media and the public, and noting that this is a great opportunity to get information and have questions answered. Readers were directed to the Program Office (phone number provided) and the website for more information. The website homepage now lists the date of the upcoming THEC meeting.

#### **4. Program Support**

One highlight of the last two months is that Andrea McCormick and I made contact with Nick Morris from WorkSafeBC. He has replaced David Mitchell as the contact person, providing information and support to THEP as we develop a Fact Sheet for construction contractors, including roofers.