

CAMDEN WATERFRONT SOUTH AIR TOXICS PILOT PROJECT

Progress Report: September 19, 2003

Modeling

We have been sorting through the preliminary results, checking for errors and flagging sources where we need additional information. After the first pass, many of the metals are showing up as the highest risk pollutants, but most of these seem to be related to facilities where we had to guess at the emissions, so we are going back to check our guesses. By the meeting on September 30, we should have more reliable results, although there may still be some uncertainty.

Particulate Matter continues to be predicted above the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (after adding in Background). Several different sources seem to be contributing to these elevated levels.

What's not included: We still haven't added truck emissions to the model results, although we have done some simple models for one or two intersections. We also haven't added in Philadelphia background (we just received those results from EPA, but they aren't in the format we expected, so we're trying to interpret them). And we are still thinking about including emissions from diesel engines on ships.

Risk Assessment

We are comparing the predicted results to health benchmarks. Health benchmarks are the concentration below which we do not expect adverse health effects. It's not clear how far above the benchmarks the health effects could begin, but we feel fairly safe when we're below. We'll focus on the scenarios above the health benchmarks for doublechecking our modeling and for identifying risk reduction strategies. Summaries of these results will be presented at the Community Advisory Committee meeting on September 30.

Monitoring

1. **Bucket Brigade Meeting:** We had a meeting with residents and local workers on August 19 to discuss the details of the Bucket Brigade activity. There were about a dozen people present, plus several DEP staffers. A representative of the Philadelphia Bucket Brigade was on-hand to describe their study and show us how the buckets work. DEP staff described the draft monitoring plan.
2. **Bucket Brigade Next Steps:** We have gone through the bidding process and have selected a Laboratory that will do the analysis on the bags for us. The Lab is ENSR and is located in Massachusetts. We ran into a snag on buying the parts for the buckets, but it looks like that will be resolved within a week so we can begin building the buckets. Once we have the parts, we will contact those who have expressed an interest in participating and will set a date for the training and first sampling.

3. Fixed Site Monitor: The CCMUA has agreed to allow DEP to site a continuous PM2.5 monitor on their roof and is arranging for electric power to the site. Once the power line is in place, DEP will install the monitor and will collect the results about once a week. We have also requested that a phone line be installed so that we can get the results automatically and immediately place it on the DEP website. Based on past experience with the phone company, it is expected to be a few months before we get this automatic connection.