

CAMDEN WATERFRONT SOUTH AIR TOXICS PILOT PROJECT

Progress Report: February 6, 2004

Modeling & Risk Assessment

We have been meeting with staff in the Southern Field Office and in our Air Permitting program and gathering additional information about the 9 facilities that we flagged as a result of our modeling and risk assessment. Although most of the new information results in improvements in the air quality predictions, the improvements have not been big enough to change our general conclusions regarding the facilities and pollutants of interest. These are repeated below.

Facilities of Interest

American Minerals
Camden Iron & Metal
CCMUA
Colonial Processing
Georgia Pacific
Mafco
Plastics Consulting
St. Lawrence Cement
State Metals

Pollutants (revised 11/25/03)

PM10
PM2.5, Arsenic, Cadmium, Lead, Nickel
Hydrogen Sulfide, Ethylene
PM2.5
PM2.5, Arsenic, Cadmium, Nickel
PM10
Lead
PM2.5, PM10, Manganese
PM2.5, Nickel, Dioxin

Monitoring

1. Bucket Brigade: The Bucket Brigade kick-off (training and first sample) took place on January 16, 2004. It was a very cold day, with a "normal" level of odors over near the Hynes Center (where we did the training). We took samples on Viola Street, Ferry Ave, Rutgers Campus, and at the DEP monitoring trailer on Copewood and Davis. The results were received from the Lab on Feb. 3 and DEP staff are trying to organize and analyze the data (it comes in the form of about 18 separate spreadsheets). Preliminary results will be available at the Feb. 24 meeting of the Community Advisory Committee.
2. Fixed Site Monitor: The continuous PM2.5 monitor on the roof of the CCMUA building is operational and the phone line has been installed so that the data can be sent directly to the DEP computer in Trenton. The results are now available on the DEP website (www.nj.gov/dep/airmon) where you can see the concentrations from the past 24-hours converted into Air Quality Index units and rated as Good, Moderate, Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups, and Unhealthy. DEP staff now check the levels daily (so far no levels above the moderate range have been observed) and since we have the data electronically we are beginning to analyze it. Part of the analysis is a comparison to the PM2.5 monitor that is running at the DEP monitoring trailer located at Copewood and Davis Streets. This analysis will also be summarized at the Feb. 24 meeting of the Community Advisory Committee.

Risk Reduction Strategies

1. DEP staff have begun to meet with the 9 Facilities flagged in the Risk Assessment step. The first meeting was with GP Gypsum on January 21. There have been some changes at the facility which we have incorporated into our modeling files and will be reassessed as soon as the data are complete. A public hearing on the GP Gypsum Operating Permit is planned for later this winter; the new modeling results will be available prior to that hearing.
2. Camden County Health Department officials have begun their Idling Rule Enforcement effort. After handing out flyers to educate driver regarding the rules and to warn of the coming enforcement effort, the County went out to find trucks violating the idling rules and did not find any. The next step will be a surprise inspection rather than announcing the action in advance.
3. Some companies in Waterfront South have expressed an interest in purchasing Ultralow Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) fuel in order to reduce the particulate emissions from the trucks that drive through the neighborhood. Information about possible fuel suppliers and the benefits of using ULSD was provided to the companies.