



Clean Air Sarnia Area

Co-Chair – Sarnia Lambton Environmental Association

Co-Chair – Ontario Ministry of Environment Conservation & Parks

Meeting Minutes

Date	Time	Location	Frequency
March 31, 2022	13:00 – 15:00 hrs	Virtual via MS Teams	Quarterly (3-4 per year)
Supported Technology	Attendance		
<u>Microsoft Teams</u> Audio or Video Conferencing	Anna Martin, Annik White, Brianne Attard, Brad Bergeron, Bryan Prouse, Cathleen O'Brien, Valbona Celso, Courtney Jackson, Lujain Daghar, Dean Pearson, Jenna Devereaux, Don Fusco, Peder Garberg, Gavin Draisley-Collishaw, James Gilmore, Glenda Prudom, Olwen Gover, Hadi Sharifi, Greg Heath, Janet Macbeth, Jennifer Meharey, Jim Sollen, Joe Boothe, Mallory Jutzi, Kristina Zimmer, Teresa Lannin, Joseph Lasowski, Lisa Hanke, Jackie Malott, Matthew Kachler, Michelle McKay, Rachel Melzer, Sean Morrison, Tony Munoz, Nathan VanBelois, Abby Salb, Sandy Kinart, Carine Schofield, Scott Grant, Kathy Grant, Scott Odolphy, Bijal Shah, Teresa Warren, Todd Murray, Annette Verhagen, Dan McDonald, Vince Gagner, Shaun Bisson, Drew Erickson, Dean Pearson, Jenna Devereaux, Ada Lockridge		

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 13:01 hours by Mallory Jutzi (MECP) as Co-Chair.

2. Introduction of New Participants

The group participated in a roll call to introduce themselves.

3. Approval of Agenda & Past Meeting Minutes

No revisions to November 2, 2021, meeting minutes or agenda were identified.

4. Ministry Project Updates

a. Sarnia Area Environmental Health Project

Rachel Melzer provided an update on parts of the Sarnia Area Environmental Health Project. Since early November, work has included meetings with the Advisory Committee, Aamjiwnaang and community. The meeting with the Advisory Committee focused on the Air Exposure Review modelling approach and results. Feedback from the Advisory Committee regarding how to improve information sharing was applied in the community meetings.

Results of the plant study will first be shared with First Nations who will decide how those results will be shared.

The consultants have selected benchmarks for the key contaminants in the Air Exposure Review and have begun their risk interpretation on them.

Continue to compile information on Environmental Stressors to address noise, flaring, odour, and nighttime light. Draft material will be discussed with the project's advisory committee in future for input.



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Next steps – the team will continue to move parts of the project forward. Community meeting presentations are available on CASA website: [Meetings and Updates - Sarnia Area Environmental Health Project \(SAEHP\) | Clean Air Sarnia and Area - CASA](#)

b. SO₂ Regulation for Petroleum Facilities (ERO 019-3443)

Dan McDonald provided a verbal update on the SO₂ regulations for petroleum facilities. In February, MECP posted a decision notice for reducing sulphur dioxide emissions from Ontario's petroleum facilities ([Reducing sulphur dioxide emissions from Ontario's petroleum facilities | Environmental Registry of Ontario](#)). This included a new regulation and three amendments to existing regulations. These changes apply to 5 facilities in Ontario; 4 refineries (3 are in Sarnia) and 1 lubricants facility.

This new regulatory approach includes requirements to reduce SO₂ emissions from two local facilities (3 total) within two months from when the regulations were filed (about a month from now). It also requires facilities to add SO₂ community monitors. Sarnia has two of three currently operational.

A question was asked about requirements for continuous monitoring systems. Continuous emissions monitoring will also be required, and data will be reported and available to the public on a quarterly and annual basis (phased-in over the next couple of years).

Kris Lee was unable to attend the meeting but had submitted questions prior to the meeting for the group to consider. One of Kris' questions related to monitoring data required under the SO₂ regulations and how it would be integrated into the CASA website. The group discussed how this data could potentially be linked to the CASA website, similar to how CASA provides connections to passive monitoring data required by the Petrochemical and Petroleum Refinery industry standard.

5. Review of Open Actions

a. SLEA AirPointers® Project

Vince provided an update on the installation of the three AirPointers® as required by the Ministry's SO₂ Technical Standard. Two have been operational since 2020; however, installation of the unit at Aamjiwnaang, as required by the Ministry, was delayed due to federal and Aamjiwnaang approval processes. Vince was happy to report that approvals were recently received, and that work was underway to complete this project. He shared that the site was prepped, and power was being installed. He confirmed that RWDI was on standby to commission and that SO₂ data should be posted to CASA in the coming weeks.

b. Station Signage & Naming

Vince provided an update of work by SLEA and Aamjiwnaang Communication teams to plan an event that would honour the three individuals that were nominated by Aamjiwnaang



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Chief and Council. He reminded the group of how these names were shared previously with CASA (see CASA minutes March 10, 2021). Recognitions are planned for: Ada (Lockridge) Rogers, Errnol Gray Sr, Wilson Plain Sr.

A question was asked about whether benzene monitoring would be added to the AirPointers located at Aamjiwnaang. Vince explained that the unit that SLEA installed was required by SO₂ Technical Standard. He reviewed how the Ministry identified this location based on their SO₂ models. He commented on how he would be very interested to review the results of the Environmental Health Study contaminant models as it may help inform other updates to where measures of contaminants could be best located. A comment was made about how there are other contaminants, in addition to SO₂ and benzene, that need to be monitored. The ministry explained how previous years of mobile survey data is available, however this represents a snapshot in time compared to the continuous monitoring stations. Low-cost sensors were presented as an option for increased spatial coverage and the federal NAPS group would be willing to help validate sensor data. Research by Foley/Grant reports that SO₂, benzene and 1,3-butadiene concentrations need to be reduced in the Sarnia and Aamjiwnaang area.

- **Action:** Aamjiwnaang Environmental to consider sharing this final report with CASA at next meeting.

c. CASA infographic

Vince shared how work is ongoing to develop a multi-media educational summary for the Bluewater Association for Safety, Environment and Sustainability and how, among other things, it would include reference to CASA monitoring. The intent of this publication is to present objective information related to regional safety, emergency preparedness, and environmental monitoring in a simple and informative way for the public to digest.

d. CASA TOR and MOU

Vince provided an update of work he is doing to document how work is done by SLEA to collect and report data into the CASA website. Part of this document will include a summary of the quality control practices used by SLEA to generate accurate and repeatable data for public review. The data provided by SLEA to CASA is accessed by a wide range of audiences and all efforts must be made to ensure quality. This document will also ensure that SLEA and the Ministry are aligned on all aspects of the airshed monitoring program.

e. SLEA Capital Update

Vince was pleased to update CASA on how the members of SLEA approved funding of significant upgrades, as recommended by RWDI, to make improvements across the entire system. For example, the data acquisition system that receives information from monitoring equipment and posts to the CASA website has been fully replaced. This new system can now automatically detect data errors and alarm the system to investigate to ensure quality data is reported.



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SLEA is also relocating their Riverbend station due to building encroachment that impacts the quality of the data collected at this location. Vince worked with St. Clair Township to identify a nearby site in an open field across from the Sir John Moore school. Contractors are now preparing the site to receive the new station enclosure which will be revealed during Emergency Preparedness Week. He discussed upgrades being made to the SLEA Scott Road station and how it is being relocated to an improved location in a more open part of the current property. A new SO₂ analyzer is part of the Scott Road Station upgrade. This allows the SO₂ AirPointer® that is currently located at this site to be moved to another site on Sombra Line to provide more modern monitoring technology and data communication at this remote location.

Vince referenced Kris Lee's questions 2,3, and 4, noting that the updates to the website to provide QA (final) data was a direct response to CASA member feedback from meetings in 2021. Vince acknowledged the questions about enhancements that could be made to CASA to help the public understand the information available. The group discussed how public feedback and testing was a major component of the design of CASA, to ensure that the public had access to air monitoring data and what the data means. CASA members are encouraged to continue to bring forward ideas of how the website can be improved.

A question was raised about what happens to air monitors if the power goes out. MECP and SLEA confirmed that this is a rare occurrence but that they are prepared to deploy generators to stations but emissions from these units could affect the quality of data.

6. New Business

a. CAER EP Week 2021

BASES (including SLEA) is planning events for every day of National Emergency Preparedness Week (May 2-6). Events will include a large-scale emergency exercise simulation, a breakfast share/debrief, regional joint health and safety forum with a focus on mental health awareness, unveiling of the new air monitoring station across from Sir John Moore Elementary School, and a luncheon to recognize Aamjiwnaang leaders selected for station naming within the community.

7. General Information Updates – Roundtable

Vince shared how SLEA funded work to complete the upgrade of the CASA website and requested RWDI to provide a walk through of new functions available to the public. RWDI accessed the site, navigated to the updated pages, and explained how SLEA, and Ministry data are now separated so reports for each can be run separately for scrubbed and raw data.



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A question was raised about availability of data from the Aamjiwnaang station on March 14, 2022.

- **Action:** Mallory will follow up with Ada about data from the Aamjiwnaang station on March 14, 2022.

A question was raised about the large crane on site at Shell and why it does not have lights for visibility purposes.

- **Action:** Olwen will follow up with Ada about the Shell crane.

- 8. Adjourn & Confirm Next Meeting** – We currently meet three times per year so our next meeting will be in late spring 2022. This next meeting will be chaired by SLEA, and notifications will go out for this meeting from SLEA a few months from now. Minutes from this meeting will be posted on the CASA website once available.