

OAR SENIOR MANAGEMENT PERSPECTIVE

AMBIENT AIR MONITORING ISSUES AND PRIORITIES



Janet McCabe
Office of Air and Radiation (OAR)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

May 15, 2012

Today's Presentation

2

- Importance of Ambient Monitoring
- Key Areas of Progress
- Upcoming Issues
- Priorities for the Ambient Monitoring Community
- Keeping a Strong Partnership

Importance of Ambient Monitoring

3

- State and Local air monitoring networks are the foundation
 - Provide key data for assessing current air quality
 - Measure success over time from our regulatory programs
- Resources are a major concern
 - Evaluate our existing networks in light of new requirements
 - Balance resource concerns with support for the six NAAQS
 - Value partnerships in the monitoring community

Key Areas of Progress

4

- Re-designed the lead monitoring network
 - ▣ Focus on lead sources likely to create NAAQS violations
 - ▣ Short-term airport study
- Implement near-road NO₂ monitoring network in a phased approach that recognizes funding limitations
- Maintained stable STAG funding for ambient monitoring in challenging budgetary environment

Upcoming Issues to Follow

5

- SO2 Implementation
 - Upcoming Stakeholder Meetings
 - Environmental and Public Health Organization Representatives
 - May 30, 2012, Washington, DC
 - State and Tribal Representatives
 - May 31, 2012, Research Triangle Park, NC
 - Industry Representatives
 - June 1, 2012, Research Triangle Park, NC
 - Contact Carolyn Childers at 919/541-5604 to register
 - <http://www.epa.gov/airquality/sulfurdioxide/implement.html>
- PM Standards Proposal
- Reengineering of PAMS network

Priorities -

Ambient Monitoring Community

6

- Identify areas of monitoring investment/disinvestment
 - ▣ Utilize recent network assessments and other data tools
 - ▣ Engage the public and EPA regions in these discussions
- Invest in technology to support efficient operation
 - ▣ Modernize data systems
 - ▣ Develop and implement plans for ongoing monitor replacement
- Support community monitoring
 - ▣ Consider testing new sensor/app options as technology becomes more widely available

Keeping the Partnership Strong

7

- Great appreciation for the efforts of the State, local, and Tribal monitoring community.
- Commitment to engaging stakeholders as early as possible.

Thank you!

Janet McCabe
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW 6100 A
Washington, DC 20460
202-564-7400
mccabe.janet@epa.gov