

Oil Sands Monitoring (OSM)

2016-2017 PROJECT PLAN SUMMARY

Project Name:	A1-1-4-1617 Ambient Air Quality Surveillance: Peace Oil Sands
Type of Project:	Focused Study
Delivery Agent:	Peace River Area Monitoring Program (PRAMP)
Project Contact:	Bob Myrick (AEP) - bob.myrick@gov.ab.ca Karla Reesor (PRAMP) - karlareesor@movingfwd.ca
Budget:	\$ 995,450

Project Description:

The monitoring plan for the Peace River oil sands region was developed by a multi-stakeholder committee based on the Report of Recommendations on Odours and Emissions in the Peace River Area (AER 2014). The report indicated that the Peace River area should have an air quality monitoring program that provides credible and comprehensive data to permit the identification and appropriate response to odours and emissions related issues. The Peace River Area Monitoring Program (PRAMP) was formed in response to this requirement, with the purpose of providing foundational air monitoring data and information for future decision-making. The existing PRAMP monitoring network consists of:

- Four continuous air monitoring stations that monitor for pollutants including sulphur dioxide (SO₂), total reduced sulphur (TRS), methane (CH₄), non-methane hydrocarbons (NMHC), total hydrocarbons (THC), and meteorological parameters
- A network of 13 passive monitors located within the Three Creeks area; and,
- Triggered canister sample measurements of VOCs are also collected at several locations within PRAMP.

Project Objectives:

- Assist in verifying that air quality is improving and odours are being minimized as a result of operational and regulatory improvements (assess trends)
- Operate transparently and give residents and stakeholders timely access to data and information in a manner that is readily understood (communicate results)
- Demonstrate that oil and gas operators have effective control mechanisms (evaluate controls)
- Verify that air quality is at acceptable levels and the emissions residents are exposed to are below toxic thresholds (determine impacts).

Key Outcomes:

Transparent, timely access to highly credible air quality data

Geographic Scope:

The Peace River Area Monitoring Program airshed including the Peace River oil sands deposit

Associated Data and Reports:

Data are stored electronically and in hardcopy by PRAMP, and permanently on the Alberta Airdata Warehouse. A description of monitoring activities conducted is provided at the end of each quarter.