



South Coast Air Quality Management District



21865 E. Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182
(909) 396-2000 • <http://www.aqmd.gov>

Airports Study Working Group Van Nuys Airport Soundproofing Office May 4, 2005 Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Gretchen Hardison
Lynda Levitan
Mike McDaniel
Rod Merl
Sean Petersen
Dennis Quilliam
Martin Rubin

Affiliation

City of Los Angeles – EAD
Councilman Tony Cardenas
Million Air Van Nuys
Santa Monica Airport
Assembly Member Fran Pavley
Los Angeles World Airport
Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution

Others Present

Michael Jerrett
USC/Friends of Sunset Park

AQMD Staff

Rudy Eden
Jean Ospital
Tom Parsons
Sumner Wilson

Welcome

Mr. Rudy Eden welcomed the members of the Airports Study Working Group. Following a round of introductions of those present, Mr. Eden informed the group that the MATES III toxics study is proposed to be extended for another year. The unusually wet winter and mild summer experienced in 2004-2005 lead to lower measured concentrations. The extension will allow sampling during more typical weather patterns for the Basin. (Subsequent to this meeting, the AQMD Governing Board approved the extension of MATES III through March 2006). MATES III will provide Basin-wide measurements to compare against values of pollutant concentrations measured at the airport sites.

Wind Direction Plots

Mr. Tom Parsons provided the group with printouts of annual and monthly wind roses for each of the airports in the study. The wind roses are based on data from the FAA towers located at Van Nuys and Santa Monica Airports. The wind roses provide a graphical representation of historical wind patterns averaged from 2000 through 2004. Mr. Parsons explained that these historical wind patterns are used to site the airport study sampling arrays in the community locations likely to experience the highest exposure to airport emissions. Mr. Dennis Quilliam asked if the shifting wind patterns between seasons at Van Nuys Airport will be considered in the study and if any sampling sites will be moved based upon seasonal wind changes. Mr. Parsons replied that the sampling sites will not be moved from one season to another and that the decision to sample two different seasons at each airport addressed the concerns about seasonal wind variations. Mr. Quilliam further stated that the airport can provide a list of the periods of time when Van Nuys Airport has a reverse direction take-off pattern (Santa Ana wind conditions primarily). Mr. Michael Jerret mentioned that there is a certain time of day when the wind direction reverses at the Santa Monica Airport and suggested that hourly wind roses for the 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. might help to explain the wind shift. Mr. Martin Rubin stated that the highest number of odor complaints occur in June, July, and August. Mr. Parsons said that the proposed sampling seasons could be shifted. Mr. Quilliam then asked if this study will correlate measurements with airport activities. Mr. Parsons responded that that level of analysis is beyond the scope of this study and that the layout of the sampling arrays would provide the best assurance that aircraft activities impacts on the community will be measured. However, airport activity data will be obtained and be provided in the report. Additional analysis may be conducted afterwards. Mr. Parsons concluded by saying that the calm winds periods are the times when community emission exposure will be highest.

Update on Sampling Sites

Mr. Sumner Wilson presented the latest information on the site selection process. Please see attached presentation for details on the sampling sites. Following Mr. Wilson's presentation, Ms. Lynda Levitan asked if a letter will be going out to the community explaining the monitoring program. Her concern was that some citizens could be suspicious of monitors placed in their community. Mr. Jerrett mentioned that he had experienced vandalism of sensors used in monitoring projects in which he has been involved. Mr. Quilliam asked if AQMD staff could prepare a handout describing the study that could be passed out to concerned citizens. Ms. Levitan asked that Councilman Cardenas' Office be notified once sampling sites are finalized. Mr. Parsons responded that the workplan for the project should be completed by the next committee meeting and that the workplan could be used to inform the public about the air quality study. Mr. Quilliam asked why the sampling arrays at Santa Monica to the northeast are so close to the 405/10 interchange. Mr. Parsons responded that one goal of the study is to determine gradients in exposures in the community, which includes information on other emission sources impacting the community. To the northwest of Santa Monica Airport, the only possible sites were the LAUSD schools –Richland Elementary and Webster Middle

School. He stated that if these two sites end up with similar identical data, AQMD staff would consider moving one of the sites to a location to the west of Santa Monica Airport. Mr. Jerrett then said that he knew a local realtor who might be able to provide vacant property for a site west of Santa Monica Airport. He also said Marine Park or Penmar Community Center might be good locations to place sampling arrays. Ms. Levitan asked how the sites will be secured. Mr. Wilson replied that temporary fencing will be installed around the sites. Mr. Quilliam stated that the 10 foot high inlet for the particle counters might pose problems for siting at Van Nuys Airport. Mr. Jerrett said that new evidence is emerging that people who are under stress (for example from noisy airport operations) have reduced resistance to the health impacts of air pollution.

Proposed Sampling Schedule

Mr. Parsons presented a proposed sampling schedule for the airport study. A copy of the schedule is included as an attachment to these meeting minutes. Mr. Rubin said that the proposed schedule would not include sampling at Santa Monica Airport during the months of June, July and August. Mr. Rubin suggested that sampling continuously for six months at Santa Monica should be considered.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Airports Study Advisory Committee will be held on July 14, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. at the Ken Edwards Center in Santa Monica.