

# National Monitoring Steering Committee Report

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WESTAR Spring Business Meeting  
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# Last Meeting

- ▶ January 14–15
- ▶ at EPA–RTP

# PAMS Re-Engineering

- ▶ Require at NCore in ozone non-attainment areas (possible >1 M population?)
  - Require hourly VOC's, carbonyls, true NO<sub>2</sub>
  - Require hourly mixing height
- ▶ Enhanced ozone monitoring plans for other non-attainment areas, decided regionally
- ▶ Funding:
  - Plan to hold back \$700k – \$1M per year for purchasing equipment (est. \$150k/site → too low?)
  - Plan on 30 – 40 new sites, plus upgrades to some old sites
- ▶ 6 auto-GC's of 8 selected for field testing
  - Will have trainings associated in 4 locations
  - RTP, Baton Rouge, LA, high altitude location TBD

# Air Toxics

- ▶ Working on 2011–2013 3-year assessment
  - No changes planned to network design
  - Add 3 VOCs to required list
  - Data quality and lab consistency are issues
- ▶ Proficiency tests now using 3 referee labs, not 1
- ▶ Technical Assistance Document being updated
- ▶ Methods work:
  - Acrolein – was on hold, now being revisited
  - Carbonyls – optimize TO-11
  - Napthalene – looking into feasibility
- ▶ Air Toxics Workshop planned
  - October 26–30, 2015 at EPA–RTP
  - Want bench/field people as well as managers
- ▶ 2011 NATA under development
  - Based on 2011 NEI (version 2)
  - To be released mid-2015

# CSN Assessment

- ▶ Final assessment decision:
  - Defund 42 low-value sites, 1 / 1 / 2015
  - Also, eliminate CSN mass, reduce sample frequency at 2 sites reduce number of carbon blanks, reduce # of shipping ice packs
- ▶ Reinvest \$400,000 of savings
  - New sites in under-represented areas
  - New analytical techniques (i.e. FTIR to replace TOR)
  - XRF on teflon filters
  - Upgrade equipment (i.e. SuperSASS)
  - Ultrafine particulates
  - Ammonia

# Exceptional Events

- ▶ EPA will only review events that cause violations/attainment issues or that affect a SIP action
- ▶ Some states flagging all exceedance data, which makes it hard for EPA to review to see what is useful and likely for documentation
- ▶ Discussion on requiring initial event descriptions with any exceptional event flag
- ▶ Hard to deal with interstate events as can't flag another state's data
- ▶ Request for EPA to provide more specific guidance on what is needed for documentation
  - Refer to [www.epa.gov/ttn/analysis/exeventsguide.htm](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/analysis/exeventsguide.htm)

# Small Sensor Update

- ▶ Air Sensors Guidebook is available
  - Defines what users need to meet their needs and the usefulness of small sensors
  - [www.epa.gov/head/airsensortoolbox/](http://www.epa.gov/head/airsensortoolbox/)
- ▶ EPA starting to revise the Mobile Sensors and Application document
  - Working with manufacturers
- ▶ Citizen and manufacturer education is very important
- ▶ Large variability in sensors
  - O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> showing promise
  - PM and VOC still shaky
- ▶ SCAQMD now has a test lab “AQ-SPEC” that is operational to look at different sensors

# Other

- ▶ EPA conducted further testing on PM<sub>2.5</sub> WINS vs VSCC impactors
  - WINS cut-point effectiveness drops off rapidly
  - Looking at 1-time funding to replace WINS impactors with VSCC
- ▶ EPA commencing work on QA revisions/updates
  - QA Handbook (to be completed early 2016)
  - Method 2.12 for PM<sub>2.5</sub>
  - Flow guidance to be developed
  - Lab training videos to be developed
- ▶ Community Air Toxics grants
  - 25 received and being reviewed



- ▶ Next MSC meeting will be in late October 2015 at EPA-RTP

**Questions?**