



Particulate Matter (Air Pollutants)

**Presentation to RCC Stakeholder Dialogue Session
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Environment Canada

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Overview of the RCC Action Plan Initiative Related to PM Annex (Air Pollutants)

- As set out in the RCC Joint Action Plan, the PM Annex initiative work plan states:
“Environment Canada, U.S. Department of State, and the Environmental Protection Agency to consider the expansion of the Canada-U.S. Air Quality Agreement to address transboundary particulate matter, the air pollutant most commonly associated with premature mortality, based on comparable regulatory regimes in the two countries”.
- Under the auspices and direction of the Canada-U.S. Air Quality Committee (AQC), which is responsible for administering the Agreement.
- The joint work plan under the RCC provides the framework for the foundational work required to consider a PM Annex, including scientific and technical analysis, and is intended to support and inform efforts in the AQC.



Progress update

- **Action Item 1 – Review of Science:** The science update of the 2004 Transboundary PM Science assessment is underway and will provide findings on the current state of transboundary movement of PM.
- **Action Item 2 – Countries’ Regulatory Actions to Reduce PM:** In 2012 both countries exchanged information related to PM emission reductions and continue to do so.
- **Action Item 3 – Amendments to the Agreement:** Both countries will decide how to move forward on this after a review and discussion of the key findings from the updated Transboundary PM science assessment.
- **Action Item 4 - Engagement:** Both countries use their existing networks for consulting with stakeholders.



Process for the next three months for ongoing work

- Canada and the U.S. will work to complete the transboundary PM science assessment and subsequently review its key findings.
- Both countries continue their respective reviews of policies and measures relevant to PM.



Next steps

- Both countries have agreed to discuss next steps upon receipt of the final Transboundary PM science assessment at the next AQC meeting on November 7, 2013.



Questions

Questions?

Thank you.