

Our Approach to Air Quality

Which Teck sites does this document apply to?

This document summarizes our approach to managing air quality. This document applies to all Teck-controlled sites and projects, inclusive of contractor activities. This does not include operations in which Teck has/had an ownership interest but is not the principal operator.

Air Quality performance information: See our **Annual Sustainability Report**, available for download on our website.



Background

Managing air quality is an important part of the environmental management programs at all of our operations. Air pollutants associated with mining and mineral processing can include particulate matter (e.g., fine and coarse dust that can include metals) and gases.

Dust at operations is generated by a variety of sources, such as vehicle traffic on mine roads, dumping rock onto waste piles, and blasting and crushing. Dust can also be generated during the transportation of mineral products along the supply chain. The release of these materials has the potential to create health, environmental or esthetic concerns and negative impacts among our stakeholders if not appropriately managed. Due to the nature of the processes that generate dust, if improperly managed, this can be a systemic and ongoing concern.

Our communities and stakeholders have increasingly identified air quality as a key concern at many of our operations. Effectively managing air quality is integral to our sustainability strategy and for building positive relations with surrounding communities. Our goal is to continually improve air quality and reduce dust emissions in areas affected by our activities for the benefit of workers, communities and the environment.

Governance and Accountability

Accountability and Resourcing

The Board of Directors, through its Safety and Sustainability Committee, broadly oversees health, safety, environment and community policies, systems, performance and auditing, including implementation

of Teck's sustainability-related standards (Sustainability Standards).

The following senior leaders at the corporate level are involved in implementing the management of air quality:

- The Senior Vice President (SVP), Sustainability and External Affairs reports directly to the President and Chief Executive Officer and is responsible for sustainability, health and safety, environment, community, and Indigenous affairs, including air quality
- The Vice President, Environment, who reports to the SVP, Sustainability and External Affairs, oversees the work conducted by site-based air quality leads, and provides air management expertise in researching, evaluating and sharing best practices to provide for consistency across the organization, and to support operations and resource development projects

At each of our operations, we have a designated team leading Teck's work in managing air quality. These employees are responsible for monitoring emissions into the air and using the results to inform and implement improved air management practices. See [Our Approach to Business and Sustainability](#) for more details on our sustainability governance structure.

Policies and Standards

Our [Code of Sustainable Conduct](#) outlines our commitment to continually improve our environmental practices and to ensure they are fully integrated into each of our activities.

Teck's Sustainability Standards outline the framework for the identification and effective management of sustainability risks and opportunities, including those related to air quality, and define a process for continual improvement.



Greenhills Operations, Canada. 2015.

Memberships, Partnerships and External Commitments

We work with various local, national and international organizations and programs to support our efforts in improving air quality:

- **International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM):** A global industry association that represents leading international mining and metals companies who are required to implement the ICMM Principles, the Position Statements and the Performance Expectations, which include criteria related to air emissions.
- **Mining Association of Canada (MAC)—Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM):** A Canadian industry association that promotes the development of the country's mining and mineral processing industry, works with governments on policies applicable to the sector, and promotes the value that mining brings to the economy and daily life of Canadians while operating responsibly using the Towards Sustainable Mining Protocols.
- **The Copper Mark:** A multi-metals assurance framework developed by the International Copper Association to promote responsible practices and to demonstrate the contribution of the transition minerals industry to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The Copper Mark criteria includes criteria related to pollution from air emissions.
- **International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14001:** An international standard that specifies the requirements for an environmental management system that organizations use to manage environmental responsibilities in a systematic way to enhance environmental performance.
- **Trail Area Health & Environment Program:** A partnership between community, industry and government to ensure a healthy community in Trail while supporting resource development
- **Sparwood Socio-Community and Economics Effects Advisory Committee (SCEEAC):** A partnership between community and industry to support ongoing dialogue and collaboration related to livability in the District of Sparwood and related to Teck's Baldy Ridge Extension Project at Elkview Operations

Approach to Managing Air Quality

Managing air quality has been a part of the environmental management activities at our operations for many years. In light of increasing focus on potential health issues associated with exposure to particulate matter, combined with growing regulatory requirements and the relevance to our operations, air quality was added as a focus area to our sustainability strategy in 2015. In the 2020 update to Teck's sustainability strategy, our sustainability goal related to this topic can be found within our health and safety priority.

Improving Air Quality

We implement numerous measures to minimize impacts on the local air quality within the vicinity of our operations. Depending on the specific activities and conditions at each operation, these measures may include:

- Wetting roads
- Applying sealants and dust suppressants to material stockpiles, roadways and railcars
- Minimizing exposure of tailings and other materials to air where possible
- Storing and handling materials indoors, where feasible
- Enclosing ore stockpiles, where feasible
- Using ventilation systems with particulate filtration for conveyors and buildings
- Modifying blasting practices to reduce dust

Monitoring and Reporting

Through our air quality programs in place at our operations, we regularly monitor and report on sources of air emissions and ambient air quality at our operations. Monitoring methods include real-time particulate and gas monitors, and high-volume monitors programmed to sample air over a 24-hour period, as well as dust fall jars for assessing dust levels over longer periods.

Information collected from both on-site and off-site weather stations, in conjunction with data collected from our air monitoring programs, allows us to determine relationships between dust and gas levels, wind patterns and precipitation. In addition, these local weather stations facilitate timely responses to changes in weather patterns that may affect the surrounding air quality. We review

and adjust activities, based on monitoring results, to maintain or improve air quality and to reduce fugitive dust associated with our activities.

Managing Incidents Related to Air Quality

Teck defines an incident as an “undesirable event arising from company activities that is both unplanned and uncontrolled, regardless of the severity of consequences”. In the vast majority of cases, incidents are immediately managed and have no significant implications¹. We actively monitor and manage all incidents related to our activities, including those related to health and safety, communities and the environment. Company-wide criteria have been established for sites to identify, report and evaluate the severity and consequences of incidents. Sites are expected to follow up on all incidents identified to understand the impacts and to implement corrective actions wherever possible, with more significant incidents potentially subject to an in-depth root cause investigation. We report any significant incidents² related to air quality annually in our [Sustainability Report](#) and share our learnings across the mining industry.

Managing Employee and Community Feedback

Teck provides response mechanisms at every operation and project and in every exploration region to specifically ensure that those who want to provide feedback on our business practices—whether it’s a comment, question, concern, complaint or compliment—are able to do so easily and, if they wish, anonymously. See [Our Approach to Relationships with Communities](#) for more details on how we manage community feedback and grievances.

Doing What’s Right is our program designed to maintain an ethical and safe workplace and uphold the moral and ethical principles within our Code of Ethics. It also specifies the basic norms and behaviours for those conducting business on our behalf. See [Our Approach to Business Conduct](#) for more details on this program.

Transportation Dust Management

As the transportation of our products can result in dust generation, we work with our railway transportation partners in Alberta and British Columbia to mitigate impacts. We prevent dust during the transportation of our steelmaking coal by managing load levels, creating a low-profile compacted surface and applying sealant sprays to materials in railcars where feasible.

We also work with our port terminal suppliers to manage dust on-site, including the use of automated dust-suppression systems. We have programs in place, along with other partners in our supply chain, to monitor the performance of, and to continually improve, our dust management systems.

Our Targets and Commitments

Our targets related to air quality are included as part of our health and safety targets, including our goal to contribute to the elimination of occupational disease by implementing new technologies for real-time exposure monitoring to improve exposure controls for dust and welding fumes by 2025.

For more information on sustainability strategy goals, see the [Sustainability Strategy](#) section of our website. We report on our performance against indicators related to air quality on an annual basis in our [Sustainability Report](#).

Assurance Related to Air Quality

Teck takes an effective, efficient, risk-focused and integrated approach to assurance activities, which ensures internal controls are appropriately designed and operating effectively. These assurance activities include:

- Risk assessments and control verification at sites and in business units
- Sustainability internal audits and mid-term effectiveness reviews conducted at sites by Teck’s Sustainability Assurance team
- Corporate annual internal audits conducted by Teck’s Assurance and Advisory team
- External assurance by independent auditors for relevant regulatory and voluntary membership requirements

Following each of these processes, applicable management teams use the results to inform future actions and Teck’s five-year planning process.

¹ “Significant implications” includes implications that arise from “significant incidents” (incidents assessed as Level 4 or Level 5 based on our risk matrix and guidance).

² Teck uses a risk management consequence matrix to determine incident severity, which includes environmental, safety, community, reputational, legal and financial aspects. “Significant incidents” includes incidents assessed as Level 4 or Level 5 based on our risk matrix and guidance.

Assurance Related to Air Quality

Type	Organization	Items Reviewed
Internal	Teck (risk-based sustainability audits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adherence to regulatory and permit requirements • Effectiveness of controls based on risk profile • Sustainability Standards
Internal	ISO 14001 Internal Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Components of the environmental management system at each certified site
External	International Council on Mining and Metals: Sustainability Report Assurance and Performance Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total SO₂ emissions from stacks, and from stationary and mobile fossil fuel combustion • Principle 6: Pursue continual improvement in environmental performance issues, such as water stewardship, energy use and climate change • Performance Expectation 6.4: Pollution Prevention
External	Mining Association of Canada: Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSM Responsible Sourcing Alignment Supplement: Criteria 22: Emissions to Air
External	The Copper Mark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk Readiness Assessment Issue area 20: Pollution
External	ISO 14001 External Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Components of the environmental management system at each certified site