

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 sites and projects. 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](#).



Governance and Accountability

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 aesthetic concerns among our stakeholders, if not appropriately managed.

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 continuously improve air quality and reduce dust emissions for the benefit of workers, communities and the environment in areas affected by our activities.

Accountability and Resourcing

The Safety and Sustainability Committee of the Board oversees health, safety, environment and community policies, systems, performance and auditing, including implementation of our Health, Safety, Environment and Community (HSEC) Management Standards.

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

- The Senior Vice President, Sustainability and External Affairs reports directly to our CEO and is responsible for sustainability, health and safety, environment, community, and Indigenous affairs, including air quality
- The Vice President, Environment 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 to the air and using the results to inform and implement improved air management practices.

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.

Memberships, Partnerships and External Commitments

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



Greenhills Operations, Canada. 2015.

- **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 10 Principles, including Principle 6 on environmental performance
- **Trail Area Health & Environment Committee:** 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.

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
- Using cover systems for trucks and railcars, where feasible
- Storing and handling materials indoors, where feasible
- Enclosing ore stockpiles
- 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 reduce fugitive dust associated with our activities.

We have extensive monitoring programs in place at particular operations to reduce fugitive dust associated with our activities. At Red Dog, Highland Valley Copper, Elkview, Greenhills, Line Creek, Fording River and Cardinal River operations, these efforts are focused on ambient air quality monitoring, while at Carmen de Andacollo and Trail operations, they are focused both on ambient air quality and weather monitoring.

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.

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 continuously improve our dust management systems.

Our Targets and Commitments

Our sustainability strategy outlines our goals in relation to air quality at our operations. Throughout 2020, we focused on making progress towards our new goals and concluding final steps on the 2020 Air Quality goals within our previous sustainability strategy. These goals, which concluded December 31, 2020, included:

By the end of 2020:

- Improve monitoring and understanding of our releases to air and the potential impacts on people, communities and the environment
- In consultation with communities, governments and other organizations, set air quality goals and establish risk-based action plans to achieve goals
- Strengthen the integration of air quality considerations into early stage project development

Going forward, 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 2025 by implementing new technologies for real-time exposure monitoring to improve exposure controls for dust and welding fumes.

For more information on our existing and new sustainability strategy goals, see the [sustainability strategy](#) section of our website.

Assurance Related to Air Quality

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

We report on our performance against these indicators and our progress towards our air quality management goals on an annual basis in our [sustainability report](#).

Assurance Related to Air Quality

Type	Organization	Items Reviewed
External	International Council on Mining and Metals: Sustainability Report assurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total SO₂ emissions from stacks, stationary and mobile fossil fuel combustion• Percentage of selected community-based air quality stations (three stations) with annual mean concentrations of ambient PM_{2.5} within World Health Organization guideline value of 10 µg/m³• Principle 6: Pursue continual improvement in environmental performance issues, such as water stewardship, energy use and climate change
External	ISO 14001 External Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Components of the environmental management system at each site
Internal	Risk-based Health, Safety and Environment audits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adherence to regulatory and permit requirements• Effectiveness of controls based on risk profile