

PAMS Re-engineering Update

- Final CASAC Review Report submitted on 9/28/11
 - Copy available at <http://tinyurl.com/cnz8bjl>
 - Major recommendations include:
 - Revise objectives to balance state/local efforts to support local attainment and EPA's objectives of trends and model development
 - Allow for more flexibility in requirements
 - Make data more accessible via user-friendly portal
 - Provide criteria for agencies to remove specific pollutants from target list
 - Add more biogenic compounds and other specifically identified compounds

- Work group formed to review various aspects of PAMS program (network design, methods, meteorology, etc.)
 - Members from OAQPS, ORD, Regions, LADCO, and State/Locals
 - Holding periodic calls to work through issues and generate recommendations

- Preliminary Recommendations From Workgroup
 - Reduce number of required sites to 1 per area but expand PAMS applicability to all O3 non-attainment areas
 - Either at existing Type 2 sites or NCore
 - All sites required to collect hourly VOC data (likely via autoGC's)
 - Remove requirement for upper air meteorology
 - Remainder of funding (50-75%) to be left to states and Regions to develop and implement "regional PAMS plans"
 - Not clear how that will be implemented at this point (103 grants, 105 grants, competitive grants, some combination)
 - Conduct a "Shoot out" to evaluate available auto-GCs
 - Leave carbonyls off list of VOCs at this point
 - Follow ORD efforts in improving method

- Additional Work Needed
 - Evaluation of PAMS list of VOCs to see if we can make a shorter list that meets our needs
 - Evaluate options to improve data accessibility
 - AirExplorer, DataFed, etc.
 - Evaluation of auto-GC (Shoot-out?)

- Timing
 - Workgroup recommendations to be complete in early 2012
 - Regulatory revisions (if needed) would be proposed in late 2012, and promulgated (if needed) in mid-2013
 - Many changes are likely to not need regulatory revisions (e.g., PAMS target list) and could be implemented sooner.