



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27711

November 10, 2014

OFFICE OF  
AIR QUALITY PLANNING  
AND STANDARDS

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Final Results of PM<sub>2.5</sub> Chemical Speciation Network Assessment

**FROM:** Richard A. Wayland, Director *Richard A. Wayland*  
Air Quality Assessment Division (C304-02)

**TO:** Air Division Directors

This is a notification to the Air Division Directors concerning the final results of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> Chemical Speciation Network (CSN) assessment process. This nearly year-long process undertook a quantitative evaluation of the network based on each site's contribution to the support of objectives including SIP development, health studies, trends analysis, urban versus rural increments, and regional haze. The goal of the assessment was to create a financially sustainable network that fully supports existing priorities, leverages other networks such as IMPROVE and NCore, and supports development of new technologies for potential future integration into CSN.

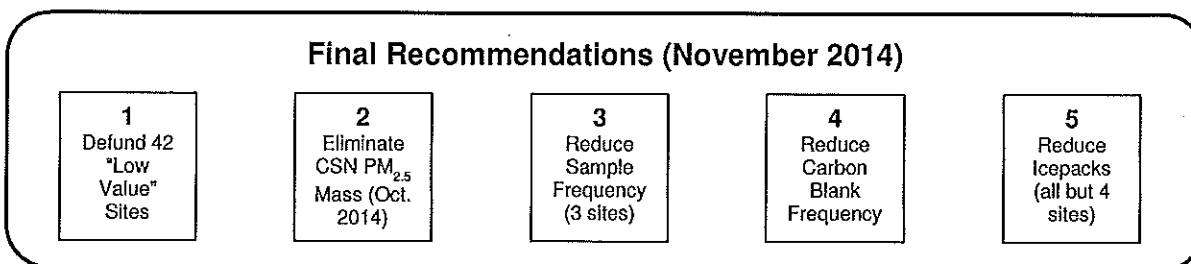
The CSN Assessment Team was comprised of members from OAQPS, Regional Offices, and NACAA. Periodic updates have been provided to the AA's office, during ADD meetings, through regular conference calls with Monitoring APM's and their staff, and through periodic discussions with NACAA, AAPCA, and HEI. A comprehensive presentation about the assessment was given at the recent National Ambient Air Monitoring Conference this past August and is available online at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/amtic/files/2014conference/tuelandis.pdf>.

As explained in the attachment, the final recommendations of the assessment include defunding of 42 sites effective at the end of the contract period in late January, 2015, elimination of the CSN PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass measurement, and minor changes to sampling frequency, carbon blank frequency, and shipping procedures.

We are optimistic that the revised CSN will be sustainable for at least another five years. We will also continue to work with your staff as well as stakeholders with state agencies and health research organizations to continue the dialogue on appropriate investments needed to maintain the efficiency and technical excellence of the network moving forward.

I would like to thank all of you for the participation and input from your monitoring staff in this effort and if you have any questions on the results of the assessment, please contact Lewis Weinstock of my staff at (919) 541-3661 or [Weinstock.lewis@epa.gov](mailto:Weinstock.lewis@epa.gov).

Attachments (1)



What are the final changes being made to the number of sites in the CSN?

A total of 42 sites will no longer be funded for laboratory analysis through the CSN national contract out of the current 189 sites (a complete list of the defunded sites is available at the end of this document). The CSN will continue with 147 sites beginning in 2015. These sites are not being shut down, rather the CSN measurements will be discontinued at the 42 sites.

What other changes are being made?

The CSN PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass measurement is being eliminated at nearly all sites since PM<sub>2.5</sub> Federal Reference Method (FRM) samplers are collocated and provide this data (EPA will provide the funds to add FRMs to those few sites that require them). Sampling frequency is being reduced to 1:6 at 3 sites (Arnold West, MO; Wylam, AL; Albany, NY). Other cost savings measures include the reduction in carbon blank collection frequency (all sites) and reduction in the number of icepacks in routine shipments (all but 4 sites) to reduce weight. These changes are all being made in close coordination with state partners.

When will these changes take place?

The last CSN mass measurement took place on September 29, 2014. The other changes (including site defunding) will be implemented at the end of the contract in late January, 2015.

Will the CSN samplers be removed from defunded sites?

No. This equipment will remain with the monitoring agencies.

Are there any options for continued sampling at the defunded sites?

Yes. Monitoring agencies may use funds such as PM<sub>2.5</sub> 103 direct award funds to pay for lab analysis costs. We know of at least five sites<sup>1</sup> (out of the defunded 42 sites) that plan to continue monitoring in this manner. Regional Office and OAQPS contacts should be informed as soon as possible if this option is being considered.

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<sup>1</sup> Chester, NJ; Camden, NJ; Chesterfield, SC; Douglas, GA; Rochester, Minnesota

PM<sub>2.5</sub> Chemical Speciation Network – Q&As about the Final Assessment Results

How will the operators of defunded sites be informed?

Site operators will receive written notification along with their regular shipment of sampling filters prior to discontinuation in January 2015. This notification will inform them of the decision to defund their sites later in January at the end of the contract period.

List of defunded sites:

AQS Site ID	Site Name	State	Region	Latitude	Longitude
34-007-0002	Camden	NJ	2	39.934446	-75.125291
34-027-3001	Chester	NJ	2	40.787628	-74.676301
10-001-0003	Dover	DE	3	39.155000	-75.518056
42-011-0011	Reading Airport	PA	3	40.383350	-75.968600
42-027-0100	State College	PA	3	40.811389	-77.877028
42-043-0401	Harrisburg	PA	3	40.245000	-76.844722
42-049-0003	Erie	PA	3	42.141750	-80.038611
42-069-2006	Scranton	PA	3	41.442778	-75.623056
42-133-0008	York	PA	3	39.965278	-76.699444
54-039-1005	South Charleston Library	WV	3	38.366183	-81.693717
01-089-0014	Huntsville Old Airport	AL	4	34.687670	-86.586370
01-101-1002	MOMS	AL	4	32.407120	-86.256367
12-103-0026	Skyview (Pinellas County)	FL	4	27.850348	-82.714465
13-059-0001	Athens	GA	4	33.945833	-83.372222
13-069-0002	Douglas	GA	4	31.513108	-82.749847
21-019-0017	Ashland Health Dept	KY	4	38.459340	-82.640410
21-043-0500	Grayson Lake	KY	4	38.238870	-82.988100
21-067-0012	Lexington Health Dept	KY	4	38.065030	-84.497610
37-021-0034	Buncombe County Board of Education	NC	4	35.607500	-82.583333
37-035-0004	Hickory	NC	4	35.728889	-81.365556
37-057-0002	Lexington	NC	4	35.814444	-80.262500
37-159-0021	Rockwell	NC	4	35.551868	-80.395039
45-025-0001	Chesterfield	SC	4	34.615367	-80.198787
45-045-0015	Greenville ESC	SC	4	34.854000	-82.412800
47-037-0023	Lockeland School	TN	4	36.176326	-86.738902
47-065-4002	UTC	TN	4	35.050928	-85.292975
47-099-0002	Lawrence County	TN	4	35.116223	-87.470010
18-039-0008	Elkhart Prarie Street	IN	5	41.656888	-85.968411
26-113-0001	Houghton Lake	MI	5	44.310555	-84.891865
26-115-0006	Sterling Park	MI	5	41.923582	-83.345730
26-147-0005	Port Huron	MI	5	42.953336	-82.456229
27-109-5008	Rochester	MN	5	43.996908	-92.450366
39-049-0081	Columbus - Maple Canyon	OH	5	40.087700	-82.959773
39-087-0012	ODOT Garage	OH	5	38.508114	-82.659301

PM<sub>2.5</sub> Chemical Speciation Network – Q&As about the Final Assessment Results

AQS Site ID	Site Name	State	Region	Latitude	Longitude
39-095-0026	Toledo Airport	OH	5	41.620633	-83.642250
39-099-0014	Head Start	OH	5	41.095938	-80.658467
55-133-0027	Waukesha, Cleveland Ave. site	WI	5	43.020075	-88.215070
19-113-0040	Linn County Health	IA	7	41.976770	-91.687660
19-153-0030	Public Health Building	IA	7	41.603159	-93.643118
29-047-0005	Liberty	MO	7	39.303090	-94.376623
29-186-0005	Bonne Terre	MO	7	37.900840	-90.423880
53-011-0023	VANNEVAN	WA	10	45.649870	-122.590100