



Health Canada Santé  
Canada Canada

Environmental Health Program  
Regulatory Operations & Enforcement Branch, Health Canada  
180 Queen Street West, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON  
M5V 3L7

July 12, 2019

Review Panel Members  
Milton Logistics Hub Project  
MiltonHubPanel@ceaa.gc.ca

Subject: Health Canada's Response to Undertaking #28 – Milton Logistics Hubs Project

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Dear Panel Members,

Health Canada participated in the public hearings for the Milton Logistics Hub Project on July 8, 2019. As requested by the Review Panel, Health Canada is providing the following information in response to undertaking #28.

**Undertaking #28** – Health Canada to provide examples where it has recommended the use of the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) as part of follow-up and monitoring and/or examples of where the CAAQS have been included as part of conditions of approval for Environmental Assessments.

We are pleased to provide the enclosed response in Annex 1.

Should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

**CHANTAL ROBERGE**  
Chantal Roberge  
A/ National Director  
Environmental Health Program  
Regulatory Operations and Enforcement Branch

Phone: <contact information removed>

cc: Kitty Ma, A/Manager, Environmental Health Program, Regulatory Operations and Enforcement Branch  
Gregory Kaminski, Senior Environmental Health Assessment Specialist, Environmental Assessment Division, Healthy Environment and Consumer Safety Branch  
Julie Boudreau, Environmental Assessment Specialist, Environmental Health Program, Regulatory Operations and Enforcement Branch  
Alex Iliescu, Environmental Assessment Coordinator, Environmental Assessment Division, Healthy Environment and Consumer Safety Branch

## **Annex 1: Milton Logistics Hub Review Panel Hearing Undertaking #28**

Health Canada, in its role as a Federal Authority under *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012*, offers among other things recommendations with respect to possible wording for conditions of approval for projects. Some of Health Canada's recommendations in this regard have included the use of CAAQS as benchmarks for assessing the effects on human health and developing possible mitigation measures.

Recent examples of project assessments where Health Canada has made such recommendations include the following:

### **Roberts Bank Terminal 2 (BC, ongoing)**

Health Canada suggested that the Panel ask the Proponent to “[u]se the most stringent, applicable, air quality criteria (e.g., CAAQS) as an indicator to inform the results of the air quality monitoring program;” however, the final decision on what the indicator should be is flexible. The project is still being evaluated; hence the conditions have not yet been issued.

### **Murray River Coal (BC, 2017)**

HC supported using the CAAQS as part of the proposed air quality monitoring for the parameters outlined in condition 6.3.1 of the decision statement for the Project approval:

*6.3.1 “...monitoring air quality on a monthly basis for total suspended particulates, particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) and dustfall at sites located upwind and downwind of the active mine area and at a control site not expected to be influenced by activities of the Designated Project and not influenced by the two predominant wind directions, using as benchmarks the National Ambient Air Quality Objectives, the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and British Columbia's Ambient Air Quality Objectives; and [...].”*

It should be noted that the original recommendation to use the CAAQS originated from a different department.

### **Hardrock Gold Mine (Ontario, 2018)**

Health Canada recommended that nitrogen dioxide be included in the ambient air monitoring plan as a condition of the Environmental Assessment, including a mitigation action plan if measured concentrations are higher than CAAQS.

The conditions of the decision statement for the Project approval that include reference to CAAQS were as follows:

*5.1 “The Proponent shall develop, prior to construction and in consultation with Indigenous groups, measures to mitigate emissions of dust generated by the Designated Project, including dust from vehicles associated with the Designated Project on roads located within the project development area and dust generated during the transport of historical tailings, that take into account the standards and criteria set out in the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment's Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and Ontario's Ambient Air Quality Criteria. The Proponent shall submit these measures to the Agency before implementing them. The Proponent shall implement these measures during construction, operation and the first five years of decommissioning.”*

5.3.2 "...monitor, during construction, operation and the first five years of decommissioning, total suspended particulates, particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>), fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and nitrogen dioxide at the monitoring locations identified pursuant to condition 5.3.1, using as benchmarks the standards and criteria set out in the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment's Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and Ontario's Ambient Air Quality Criteria. The Proponent shall monitor total suspended particulates, fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and nitrogen dioxide at least monthly and shall monitor particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) in real-time; [...]."

#### **Rainy River Mine (Ontario, 2015)**

Health Canada recommended referencing CAAQS and it has been included in condition 5.1 of the decision statement for the Project approval:

5.1 "The Proponent shall, during the construction, operations, and decommissioning phases of the Designated Project, control exceedances of the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and meet air quality requirements established by Ontario at the nearest human receptor by: [...]."

#### **Marine Terminal Saguenay (Quebec, 2018)**

Health Canada recommended referencing CAAQS and this recommendation was incorporated in condition 6.1 of the decision statement for the Project approval:

6.1 "The Proponent shall develop, prior to construction and in consultation with relevant authorities and potentially affected parties, and implement measures to mitigate emissions of dust and fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) generated by the Designated Project that take into account the ambient air quality standards and criteria set out in the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment and Quebec's Règlement sur l'assainissement de l'atmosphère."

#### **Whabouchi Mining Project (Quebec, 2015)**

Health Canada recommended referencing CAAQS and this recommendation was included in conditions 6.2.1 and 6.2.2 of the decision statement for the Project approval:

6.2.1 "monitoring the air quality at the Bible Camp and at the hunting camp most likely to be affected by the Designated Project using the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment's Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and the Quebec Clean Air Regulation as benchmarks. Air quality monitoring shall be implemented from the beginning of construction until the completion of the decommissioning phase;"

6.2.2 "notifying the Cree Nation of Nemaska if monitoring under condition 6.2.1 shows exceedances of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment's Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards or the Quebec Clean Air Regulation, and, if necessary, implementing additional mitigation measures; and [...]."