Annual Report

North Dakota Air Quality Monitoring Data Summary 2009



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John Hoeven Governor

Terry L. Dwelle, M.D. State Health Officer

L. David Glatt Environmental Health Section Chief



North Dakota Department of Health Division of Air Quality Air Quality Monitoring Branch 918 E. Divide Ave. Bismarck, N.D. 58501-1947

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The North Dakota Department of Health operated seven ambient air quality monitoring sites and industry operated eight source-specific air quality monitoring sites. The National Park Service maintains a monitoring site at the Theodore Roosevelt National Park – South Unit's Painted Canyon Overlook. The ambient monitoring data from this site is included in this report. There were no sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone or particulate matter exceedances of either the state or federal ambient air quality standards measured during 2009.

North Dakota is one of thirteen states that are in attainment for all criteria pollutants. North Dakota also has been designated attainment for both the 2.5 particulates and the 8-hour ozone standards.

INTRODUCTION

The North Dakota Department of Health, Environmental Health Section, Division of Air Quality, henceforth known as "the department," has the primary responsibility for protecting the health and welfare of North Dakotans from the harmful effects of air pollution. The department ensures that the ambient air quality in North Dakota is better than the levels required by the state and federal Ambient Air Quality Standards and the "Prevention of Significant Deterioration of Air Quality Rules." To address this responsibility, the department operates a network of ambient air quality monitors.

In addition to the state-operated ambient air quality monitoring sites, three industrial sources operated air quality monitoring sites within their immediate spheres of influence. These site locations are selected based on computer dispersion modeling and prevailing wind directions.

This report provides an overview of air quality monitoring activities conducted by the department and industry during the 12-month period beginning Jan. 1, 2009, and ending Dec. 31, 2009. The report includes data summaries for the monitored pollutants and significant changes that occurred to the monitoring program. Also included are wind and pollution star charts and trend graphs. The pollution star charts (Appendix 3) indicate the percentage of time a pollutant is detected when the wind is from each direction. The trend graphs (Appendix 4) show the maximum concentration for each pollutant standard.

NETWORK DESCRIPTION

Department Sites

During 2009, the department operated seven air quality monitoring sites. Table 1 lists the department monitoring sites that were active during the year.

In general, department ambient air quality monitoring (AAQM) sites obtain air quality data to meet six monitoring objectives: (1) to determine the highest <u>pollutant concentrations</u> expected to occur in the area covered by the network; (2) to measure typical concentrations in area of high <u>population density</u>; (3) to determine the impact of <u>significant sources</u> or <u>class categories</u>; (4) to determine <u>general background</u> concentration levels, (5) to determine the impact on air quality by <u>regional transport</u>; and, (6) to determine <u>welfare-related</u> impacts (such as visibility impacts and vegetation effects). The department has determined that three sites are required to satisfy these six monitoring objectives. They are identified as "Required" in Table 1, in the "Station Type" column. The remaining four sites collect data used to support and/or supplement the department's dispersion modeling activities

The department's ambient air quality monitoring network normally does not include source-specific monitoring; i.e., monitoring a single, specific source. However, the department, in issuing Permits to Construct and Permits to Operate for major sources, may require those sources to operate ambient air quality monitoring programs to assess impacts on local air quality.

The ambient monitoring site at Theodore Roosevelt National Park – South Unit (TRNP – SU) is a part of the National Park Service's national network. However, the Park Service has asked the department to install and operate sulfur dioxide and ozone analyzers and a $PM_{2.5}$ manual sampler on their behalf. Also installed at this site are a continuous $PM_{2.5}$ analyzer, and various meteorological parameters. These data are included in this report to present a better and more complete picture of the air quality in the State.

Industry Sites

Industry operated eight source-specific air quality monitoring sites during 2009. Table 1 also lists the industry networks and monitoring sites active during the year.

In general, industry air quality monitoring sites obtain data at locations expected to show high concentrations of pollution from a specific source or group of sources. These source specific sites are selected using computer dispersion modeling programs and annual wind patterns. The distance a

monitoring site is located from a source is determined by the primary pollutant monitored, if the site is a multi-pollutant site.

Figure 1 displays department and industry monitoring sites. If an industry has more than one site, only the approximate location within the county is indicated.

TABLE 1

Site Name AQS Site #	Station Type	Parameter Monitored ¹	Operating Schedule	Monitoring Objective ²
1 Beulah North 380570004	SLAMS Required	$\begin{array}{c} PM_{2.5}\\ SO_2, NO_2, O_3, MET\\ NH_3\\ cont. PM_{2.5}\\ PM_{10} \end{array}$	6 th Day cont. cont. cont. cont.	Population Exposure & Significant Source
2 Bismarck Residential 380150003	SLAMS	SO ₂ , NO ₂ , O ₃ , MET cont PM _{2.5} , PM10 ⁵ PM _{2.5}	cont. cont. 3 rd Day	Population Exposure
3 Dunn Center 380250003	SLAMS Required	SO ₂ ⁴ ,NO ₂ , O ₃ , MET cont. PM _{2.5} , PM ₁₀	cont.	General Background
4 Fargo NW 380171004	SLAMS Required			Population Exposure
5 Hannover 380650002	SLAMS	SO ₂ , NO ₂ , O ₃ , MET cont PM _{2.5}	cont. cont.	Significant Source
6 Lostwood 380130004	SLAMS	SO ₂ ⁴ ,NO ₂ , O ₃ , NH ₃ , MET, cont PM _{2.5} , PM ₁₀	cont.	General Background & Significant Source
7 TRNP - NU 380530002	SLAMS Required	SO ₂ ⁴ ,NO ₂ , O ₃ , MET cont. PM _{2.5} , PM10	cont. cont.	General Background, Long range Transport, Welfare-Related
Company	Site Name AQS Site #			
8 Amerada Hess Corporation	TIOGA #1 381050103 TIOGA #3 381050105	SO ₂ SO ₂	cont.	Source Impact Source Impact
9 Bear Paw Energy, Inc.	MGP #3 380530104 MGP #5 380530111	SO ₂ , MET SO ₂ , MET	cont. cont.	Source Impact Source Impact
10 Dakota Gasification Company	DGC #12 380570102 DGC #14 380570118 DGC #16 380570123 DGC #17 380570124	SO ₂ , NO ₂ , MET SO ₂ SO ₂ SO ₂ , NO ₂	cont. cont. cont. cont.	Source Impact Source Impact Source Impact Source Impact

MET refers to meteorological and indicates wind speed and wind direction monitoring equipment.
 Not applicable to MET.
 This analyzer will serve a dual role of population exposure and general background.
 The analyzer was changed to a SO2 Trace Level affective June 1,2007



Figure 1North Dakota Air Quality Monitoring Network

NETWORK CHANGES

Department Changes

The department installed a trial continuous $PM_{2.5}$ analyzer at the Bismarck Residential site in preparation for the changeover to equivalent method analyzers.

Industry Changes

There were no Industry changes.

MONITORING RESULTS

Introduction

Ambient and source-specific air quality data collected during the year at monitoring sites operated by the department and industry are summarized in tables for the following pollutants: sulfur dioxide (SO_2), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), ozone (O_3), ammonia (NH_3), inhalable 2.5 particulates ($PM_{2.5}$) and inhalable particulates (PM_{10}). Each section contains a description of the physical characteristics and health effects, a comparison to the state standards and a data summary.

The data summaries for gaseous pollutants include maximum concentrations, arithmetic and means for the analytical method used for each parameter. Where applicable, the number of times a state standard was exceeded is indicated. The concentrations for gaseous pollutants are reported in parts per billion (ppb).

The $PM_{2.5}$ data summaries contain the three highest 24-hour average concentrations; annual arithmetic mean; the number of times the 24-hour standard was exceeded, if applicable; and an asterisk (*) if the annual standard is exceeded, if applicable. The concentrations are reported in micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu g/m^3$).

Continuous $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10} data summaries contain the two highest 1-hour averages and the four highest 24-hour averages; the annual average; the number of times the 24-hour standard was exceeded, if applicable; and an asterisk (*) if the annual standard is exceeded, if applicable. The concentrations are reported in micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu g/m^3$). Since the PM_{2.5} data are not collected with a reference or equivalent method the data cannot be used for comparison for any regulatory purpose. If this data indicates an exceedance, then a reference or equivalent method sampler must be installed at the site of the possible air quality standard exceedance.

For statistical purposes, pollutant concentrations less than the minimum detectable value (MDV) for the analytical method used are assigned a value equal to one-half the MDV. The MDV for SO_2 is 2 ppb; SO_2 – trace level is 0.2 ppb; NO_2 is 1 ppb; O_3 is 4 ppb; manual $PM_{2.5}$ is 2.0 µg/m³; and manual PM_{10} is 4 µg/m³. The MDV for the continuous PM_{2.5} is -10.0 µg/m³ and for continuous PM₁₀ is -50.0 µg/m³. Annual means are calculated for SO_2 , NO_2 , $PM_{2.5}$, and PM_{10} . However, only those means with more than 75 percent of data greater than the MDV are unbiased calculations.

As part of the statistical evaluation, the data recovery (NUM OBS) is evaluated to determine if the data recovery complies with the state's required 80 percent data recovery rate. A continuous analyzer

operating fewer than 7,008 hours per year may achieve at least an 80 percent data recovery for the period operated; however, it does not meet the 80 percent data recovery for the full year. Each analyzer at a site not meeting the 80 percent data recovery for the year is flagged in the "NUM OBS" column by placing "***" underneath the number of observations. Particulate matter samplers must collect at least 48 samples per year for 1-in-6 day sampling and 96 samples per year for 1-in-3 day sampling to meet the 80 percent data recovery rate.

Sulfur Dioxide

Physical Characteristics and Sources

Sulfur dioxide is a colorless gas with a pungent odor detectable by the human nose at concentrations of 500 to 800 ppb. It is highly soluble in water where it forms sulfurous acid (H_2SO_3) . In the atmosphere, sulfurous acid is easily converted to sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4) , the major acidic component of "acid rain," which then may convert to a sulfate. On a worldwide basis, sulfur dioxide is considered to be a major pollutant. It is emitted mainly from stationary sources that burn coal and oil - such as utility boilers. Other sources of sulfur dioxide include re2.5ries, natural gas processing plants, oil well heaters and flares.

Health Effects

Sulfur dioxide can be converted in the atmosphere to sulfuric acid aerosols and particulate sulfate compounds, which are corrosive and potentially carcinogenic (cancer-causing). The major health effects of sulfur dioxide appear when it is associated with high levels of other pollutants, such as particulate. Sulfur dioxide also may play an important role in the aggravation of chronic illnesses, such as asthma. The incidence and intensity of asthma attacks have increased when asthmatics are exposed to higher levels of sulfur dioxide and particulate matter sulfates, which are products of atmospheric sulfur dioxide reactions.⁴

Standards Comparison

Sulfur dioxide was monitored at 8 sites. Seven sites were run by the department, one by NPS, and eight by industry. As a result of legislative action effective Aug. 1, 1997, coal conversion facilities and oil refineries were exempted from the state sulfur dioxide standards, leaving these two classes of sources subject only to the federal standards. Therefore, the Dakota Gasification Company (DGC) network is compared only to the federal standards.

The 1-hour state standard (273 ppb) was not exceeded during the year. The maximum 1-hour concentration was 111 ppb at Hess - Tioga #3.

The 3-hour federal secondary standard (500 ppb) was not exceeded during the year. The maximum 3-hour average concentration was 62 ppb at Hess - Tioga #3.

The 24-hour state standard (99 ppb) was not exceeded during the year. The maximum 24-hour average concentration was 28 ppb at Hess - Tioga #3.

Among those sites that collected at least 80 percent of the possible data during the year, the maximum annual arithmetic mean was 3.0 ppb at Hess - Tioga #3.

The sulfur dioxide data are summarized in Table 2 and SO2 Trace Level in Table 3.

TABLE 2

COMPARISON OF AIR QUALITY DATA WITH THE NORTH DAKOTA AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS *

POLLUTANT : SULFUR DIOXIDE	(ppb)			М	АХ	IMA					
LOCATION	YEAR	NUM OBS	1 - 1ST	HOUR 2ND	A X 3 1ST	- HOUR 2ND	24 - 1ST	- HOUR 2ND	ARITH MEAN	1HR #>273	24HR #>99
Bear Paw - MGP #3	2009	8648	51	45	33	16	6	5	1.2		
Bear Paw - MGP #5	2009	8636	14	10	7	6	3	2	1.1		
Beulah - North	2009	8689	41	38	31	20	7	6	1.6		
Bismarck Residential	2009	8626	50	32	27	25	10	8	2.0		
DGC #12	2009	8713	52	45	25	22	5	5	1.5		
DGC #14	2009	8716	34	31	20	18	6	5	1.4		
DGC #16	2009	8647	58	34	26	21	10	5	1.5		
DGC #17	2009	8721	31	30	19	18	6	5	1.4		
Hannover	2009	8692	59	47	30	29	10	8	1.7		
Hess - Tioga #1	2009	8622	44	39	34	19	6	6	1.3		
Hess - Tioga #3	2009	8611	111	87	62	51	28	26	3.0		
TRNP - SU	2009	8508	18	17	16	15	7	6	1.2		

The highest 1-hour concentration is 111 ppb at Hess - Tioga #3 The highest 3-hour concentration is 62 ppb at Hess - Tioga #3 The highest 24-hour concentration is 28 ppb at Hess - Tioga #3 The highest arithmetic mean is 3.0 ppb at Hess - Tioga #3

* The air quality standards are:

STATE Standards -

273 ppb maximum 1-hour average concentration.
 99 ppb maximum 24-hour average concentration.

- 3) 23 ppb maximum annual arithmetic mean concentration.

FEDERAL Standards -

- 1) 500 ppb maximum 3-hour concentration not to be exceeded more than once per year.
 2) 140 ppb maximum 24-hour concentration not to be exceeded more than once per year.
 3) 30 ppb annual arithmetic mean.

TABLE 3

COMPARISON OF AIR QUALITY DATA WITH THE NORTH DAKOTA AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS *

POLLUTANT : TRACE LEVEL SULFUR DIOXIDE (ppb)

LOCATION	YEAR	NUM PERIOD OBS	1 1ST	M - HOUR 2ND	A X 3 IST	I M A - HOUR 2ND	24 1ST	- HOUR 2ND	ARITH MEAN	1HR #>273	24HR #>99
Dunn Center	2009	8327	20.1	17.4	13.0	12.0	6.0	5.0	0.5		
Fargo NW	2009	8505	8.5	8.0	7.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	0.3		
Lostwood NWR	2009	6478	57.1	56.9	46.0	34.0	15.0	13.0	1.7		
TRNP - NU	2009	8142	20.3	11.6	10.0	8.0	4.0	4.0	0.6		

The highest 1-hour concentration is 57.1 ppb at Lostwood NWR

The highest 3-hour concentration is 46.0 ppb at Lostwood NWR The highest 24-hour concentration is 15.0 ppb at Lostwood NWR The highest arithmetic mean is 1.7 ppb at Lostwood NWR

* The air quality standards are: STATE Standards
273 ppb maximum 1-hour average concentration.
99 ppb maximum 24-hour average concentration.
23 ppb maximum annual arithmetic mean concentration.

FEDERAL Standards 1) 500 ppb maximum 3-hour concentration not to be exceeded more than once per year.
2) 140 ppb maximum 24-hour concentration not to be exceeded more than once per year.
3) 30 ppb annual arithmetic mean.

Sulfur Dioxide 5-Minute Average

Sulfur dioxide 5-minute averages were collected at state-operated sites and both the Hess and Bear Paw Energy networks. The maximum 5-minute average was 225 ppb at Hess - Tioga #3.

The sulfur dioxide 5-minute data are presented in Table 4 and Trace Level data in Table 5.

TABLE 4							
COMPARISON OF AIR QUALITY DATA WITH THE NORTH DAKOTA AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS *							
POLLUTANT : SO2 5-Minu	ite Averages (ppb)			5 - M I N U T E	махіма		
LOCATION	YEAR	NUM OBS	1ST	2ND	3RD	# HOURS >600	
Bear Paw - MGP #3	2009	8648	122	105	81		
Bear Paw - MGP #5	2009	8636	68	43	31		
Beulah - North	2009	8689	73	66	51		
Bismarck Residential	2009	8628	82	64	62		
Hannover	2009	8639	128	97	92		
Hess - Tioga #1	2009	8622	111	101	93		
Hess - Tioga #3	2009	8611	225	198	195		
TRNP - SU	2009	8508	24	24	21		

The maximum 5-minute concentration is 225 ppb at Hess - Tioga #3

* No Standard is currently in effect

TABLE 5

COMPARISON OF AIR QUALITY DATA WITH THE NORTH DAKOTA AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS *

POLLUTANT : Trace Level SO2 5-Minute Averages (ppb) 5 - MINUTE MAXIMA								
LOCATION	YEAR	NUM OBS	1ST	2ND	3RD	# HOURS >600		
Dunn Center	2009	8240	25.6	22.5	20.5			
Fargo NW	2009	8515	14.6	12.6	11.8			
Lostwood NWR	2009	6479	144.0	118.0	113.0			
TRNP - NU	2009	8022	29.0	17.0	15.2			

The maximum 5-minute concentration is 144 ppb at Lostwood NWR

* No Standard is currently in effect:

Nitrogen Dioxide

Physical Characteristics and Sources

In its pure state, nitrogen dioxide is a reddish-orangish-brown gas with a characteristic pungent odor. It is corrosive and a strong oxidizing agent. As a pollutant in ambient air, however, it is virtually odorless, although it may be an irritant to the eyes and throat. Oxides of nitrogen, nitric oxide and nitrogen dioxide are formed when the nitrogen and oxygen in the air are combined in high-temperature combustion. Nitric oxide released into ambient air combines with oxygen to form nitrogen dioxide. Major nitrogen dioxide sources in North Dakota are coal conversion processes, natural gas processing plants and natural gas compressor stations.

The dark orangish-brown colored plume frequently seen downwind from a major source is most likely the result of the conversion of nitric oxide to nitrogen dioxide. It is the nitrogen dioxide that causes the plume's dark appearance. The speed with which this conversion occurs is dependent on several factors, primarily the relative concentrations of nitric oxide and ozone, the amount of ultraviolet light available and meteorological conditions.

Health Effects

The negative effects of nitrogen dioxide on personal comfort, well-being and the environment include respiratory distress, as well as impacts on vegetation, materials, visibility and acid deposition.

Standards Comparison

Nitrogen dioxide was monitored at nine sites. Seven were operated by the department and two by industry.

The state annual standard (53 ppb) was not exceeded during the year. The maximum annual arithmetic mean of those sites collecting at least 80 percent of the possible data for the year was 5.9 ppb at Bismarck Residential.

The nitrogen dioxide data are summarized in Table 6.

TABLE 6

COMPARISON OF AIR QUALITY DATA WITH THE NORTH DAKOTA AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS \star

POLLUTANT : NITROGEN DIOXIDE (ppb)			мах	IMA	
LOCATION	YEAR	NUM OBS	1 - 1ST	HOUR 2ND	ARITH MEAN
Beulah - North	2009	8622	59	51	2.8
Bismarck Residential	2009	8486	47	45	5.9
DGC #12	2009	8675	36	28	2.7
DGC #17	2009	7224	41	39	2.0
Dunn Center	2009	8329	14	12	1.5
Fargo NW	2009	8590	57	54	5.0
Hannover	2009	8663	53	50	2.0
Lostwood NWR	2009	7965	29	27	1.7
TRNP - NU	2009	8293	15	13	1.0

The highest 1-hour concentration is 59 ppb at Beulah North The highest Arithmetic Mean concentration is 5.9 ppb at Bismarck Residential

*The air quality standards are:

STATE - 53 ppb maximum annual arithmetic mean.

FEDERAL - 53 ppb annual arithmetic mean.

Ammonia

Physical Characteristics

Ammonia is a corrosive, colorless gas with a strong irritating odor. It is used in making fertilizer, plastics, dyes, textiles, detergents and pesticides. It reacts with acids and oxidizing materials (fluorine, chlorine, etc.). It is corrosive to copper, zinc and many metal surfaces. It reacts with hypochlorite and halogens to form explosive compounds that are pressure and temperature sensitive.

Health Effects

In mild concentrations (<25,000 ppb), ammonia will cause conjunctivitis and dermatitis. At higher concentrations, it will cause swelling, painful burns, lesions, and possible loss of vision. On contact with the skin, it will cause caustic-like burns and inflammation. Toxic level (300,000 ppb) skin exposure may cause skin lesions resulting in early necrosis and scarring. Inhalation is corrosive and irritating to the upper respiratory system and all mucus-type tissue. Depending on the concentration inhaled, it may cause burning sensations, coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, headache and nausea, with eventual collapse and death.

Standards Comparison

There is no ambient air quality standard for ammonia. Because ammonia is important to the newer air quality dispersion models, the ammonia analyzer is maintained at the Beulah - North site. Long-term average ambient ammonia concentration is a required input to the dispersion modeling system. Chemistry governing the conversion of sulfur oxides to sulfate and the conversion of nitrogen oxides to nitrate in Calpuff is constrained by the availability of ambient ammonia. Therefore, the ambient level of ammonia affects dispersion modeling predictions for SO_2/NO_2 concentrations, general visibility and particulate deposition.

The ammonia data are summarized in Table 7.

		TABLE 7COMPARISON OF AIR QUALITY DATA WITHTHE NORTH DAKOTA AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS *					
POLLUTANT : AMMONIA (PPB)			М	A X I 1 - H	M A OUR		
LOCATION	YEAR	NUM OBS	1ST	2ND	3rd	4TH	
Beulah - North	2009	8583	145.0	134.0	132.0	68.0	
Lostwood NWR	2009	4882	16.0	11.0	10.0	9.0	

The highest 1-hour concentrations is 145.0 at Beulah - North * No Standard is currently in effect:

Carbon Monoxide

Physical Characteristics and Sources

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless and toxic gas. Because it is impossible to see, taste or smell the toxic fumes. At lower levels of exposure, CO causes mild effects that are often mistaken for the flu. These symptoms include headaches, dizziness, disorientation, nausea and fatigue. The effects of CO exposure can vary greatly from person to person depending on age, overall health and the concentration and length of exposure.

Worn or poorly adjusted and maintained combustion devices (e.g., boilers, furnaces) can be significant sources, or if the flue is improperly sized, blocked, disconnected, or is leaking. Auto, truck, or bus exhaust from nearby roads, or parking areas can also be a source.

Health Effects

Carbon Monoxide at low concentrations, fatigue in healthy people and chest pain in people with heart disease. Carbon Monoxide at higher concentrations, impaired vision and coordination, headaches, dizziness, confusion, and nausea. Can cause flu-like symptoms that clear up after leaving home. Fatal at very high concentrations. Acute effects are due to the formation of carboxyhemoglobin in the blood, which inhibits oxygen intake. At moderate concentrations, angina, impaired vision, and reduced brain function may result. At higher concentrations, CO exposure can be fatal.

Standards Comparison

Carbon Monoxide was monitored at one state-run site Fargo NW.

The 1-hour state standard (35,000 ppb) was not exceeded during the year. The maximum 1-hour concentration was 1,186.0 ppb at Fargo NW.

The 8-hour standard (9,000 ppb) was not exceeded during the year . The maximum 8-hour concentration was 700 ppb at Fargo NW.

The Carbon Monoxide data are summarized in Table 8.

TABLE 8

POLLUTANT : CARBON	I MONOXIDE (PPB)	COMPARISON OF AIR QUALITY DATA WITH THE NORTH DAKOTA AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS *									
LOCATION	YEAR	NUM OBS		M A X - HOUR 2ND	I M A 8 - HO 1ST	UR 2ND	1HR #>35000	8HR #>9000			
Fargo NW	2009	8525	1186.0	1003.0	700.0	500.0					

* The STATE and FEDERAL air quality standards are:
1) The maximum allowable 1-hour concentration is 35000 ppb not to be exceeded more than once per year.
2) The maximum allowable 8-hour concentration is 9000 ppb not to be exceeded more than once per year.

Ozone

Physical Characteristics and Sources

Ozone is a highly reactive form of oxygen. At very high concentrations, it is a blue, unstable gas with a characteristic pungent odor. It often can be detected around an arcing electric motor, lightning storms or other electrical discharges. However, at ambient concentrations, ozone is colorless and odorless.

At ground level where it can be breathed, ozone is a pollutant. However, ground-level ozone should not be confused with the stratospheric ozone located between 12 and 30 miles above the earth's surface. The stratospheric ozone layer shields the earth from intense cancer-causing ultraviolet radiation. Concentrations of ozone in this layer are approximately 10,000 to 12,000 ppb or 100 times the state's ambient air quality standard for ozone. Occasionally, meteorological conditions can result in stratospheric ozone being brought to ground level. This can increase concentrations by 50 to 100 pbb.

Ozone is not emitted directly from a source like other pollutants, but forms as a secondary pollutant. Its precursors are certain hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides that react chemically in sunlight to form ozone. The sources for these reactive hydrocarbons are automobile exhaust; gasoline and oil storage and transfer; industrial paint solvents; degreasing agents; cleaning fluids; and ink solvents. Nitrogen oxides are created when nitrogen and oxygen in the air combine during high-temperature combustion. Also, vegetation gives off some reactive hydrocarbons; for example, pine trees give off terpene.

Ozone production is a year-round phenomenon. However, the highest ozone levels generally occur during the summer season when sunlight is stronger and stagnant meteorological conditions can cause reactive pollutants to remain in an area for several days. Ozone produced under these conditions can be transported many miles.

Health Effects

Short-term exposure to ozone in the range of 150 to 250 ppb may impair mechanical functions of the lungs and may induce respiratory difficulties and related symptoms in sensitive individuals (those who have asthma, emphysema or reduced lung function). Symptoms and effects of ozone exposure are more readily induced in people who are exercising.

Ozone is the major component of photochemical "smog," although the haziness and odors of the smog are caused by other components. The deterioration and degradation of material, especially the splitting and cracking of rubber tires and windshield wiper blades, is associated with ozone. Many plants, such as soybeans and alfalfa, are sensitive to ozone and can be damaged by extended exposure to low levels of ozone.

Standards Comparison

Ozone was monitored at seven state-run sites and the National Park Service's TRNP - SU site. These data are used in computer dispersion models as part of both the primary and secondary chemical transformation equations.

The 1-hour state standard (120 ppb) was not exceeded during the year. The maximum 1-hour concentration was 76 ppb at Bismarck Residential.

The 8-hour standard uses the fourth-highest daily maximum for comparison to the standard. The highest fourth-highest 8-hour concentration was 59 ppb at Lostwood NWR.

					R QUALITY D T AIR QUALI					
POLLUTANT : Ozone (ppb)				М	A X I	M A				
LOCATION	YEAR	NUM OBS	1 - 1ST	HOUR 2ND	1ST	8 – 1 2ND	HOUR 3RD	4TH	1HR #>120	8HR #>75
Beulah North	2009	8615	66	63	60	58	56	55		
Bismarck Residential	2009	8624	76	61	58	57	54	54		
Dunn Center	2009	8378	67	61	57	55	55	54		
Fargo NW	2009	8600	64	63	60	60	58	57		
Hannover	2009	8641	67	65	62	59	57	57		
Lostwood NWR	2009	8123	66	63	60	60	59	59		
TRNP - NU	2009	8620	62	60	58	56	56	56		
TRNP - SU	2009	8657	68	66	61	58	56	56		

The ozone data are summarized in Table 9.

TABLE 9

The highest 1-hour concentration is 76 ppb at Bismarck Residential The 4th highest 8-hour concentration is 59 ppb at Lostwood NWR $\,$

* The air quality standards for ozone are: STATE - 120 ppb not to be exceeded more than once per year.

FEDERAL Standards -

1) 120 ppb maximum 1-hour concentration with no more than one expected exceedance per year.
 2) Fourth highest daily maximum 8-hour averages for a 3-year period not to exceed 75 ppb.

Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5} & PM₁₀)

Physical Characteristics and Sources

Particulate matter is the term given to the tiny particles of solid or semi-solid material found in the atmosphere. Particulates ranging in size from less than 0.1 micrometer to 50 micrometers are called Total Suspended Particulate (*TSP*). Particles larger than 50 micrometers tend to settle out of the air quickly and are not considered to have a health impact. Particulate matter 10 micrometers (microns) in diameter and smaller is considered inhalable. This particulate matter is called PM_{10} .

The majority of anthropogenic (man-made) particulate are in the 0.1 to 10 micrometer diameter range. Particles larger than 10 micrometers usually are due to Afugitive dust@ (windblown sand and dirt from roadways, fields and construction sites) and contain large amounts of silica (sand-like) materials. PM_{10} particulate, on the other hand, generally is created during a burning process and includes fly ash (from power plants), carbon black (from automobiles and diesel engines) and soot (from fireplaces and wood-burning stoves). PM_{10} particulates from these sources contain a large percentage of elemental and organic carbon, which play a role in both visual haze and health issues.

In addition, particles less than 2.5 micrometers ($PM_{2.5}$) are major contributors to visibility degradation because of their ability to "scatter" light.

Health Effects

The health risk from an inhaled dose of particulate matter depends on the size and concentration of the particulate. Size determines how deeply the inhaled particulate will penetrate into the respiratory tract, where it can persist and cause respiratory damage. Particles less than 10 micrometers in diameter are easily inhaled deeply into the lungs.

Fine particulate ($PM_{2.5}$) pollution affects the health of certain subgroups. Such groups can be identified as potentially Aat risk@ of adverse health effects from airborne pollutants. There is very strong evidence that asthmatics are much more sensitive (i.e., respond with symptoms at relatively low concentrations) to the effects of particulates than is the general healthy population.

The effects of particulate exposure may be the most widespread of all pollutants. Because of the potential for extremely long-range transport of 2.5 particles and because of the chemical reactions that occur, no place on earth has been spared from the particulate generated by urban and rural sources. The effects of particulate range from visibility degradation to climate

changes to vegetation damage. General soiling, commonly thought to be just a nuisance, can have long-term effects on paint and other materials. Acid deposition can be detected in the most remote areas of the world.

Inhalable PM_{2.5} Particulates

Inhalable PM_{2.5} particulates were monitored at five sites using manual samplers. The sites at Beulah, TRNP - NU and TRNP - SU collect a sample once every six days. Sites at Bismarck and Fargo collect a sample once every three days.

Standards Comparison

The 24-hour federal standard (35 μ g/m³) was not exceeded during the year. The maximum 24-hour average concentration was 35.9 μ g/m³ at Fargo NW. The federal standard is defined as the 3 year average of the 98th percentile values, not the maximum individual 24-hour average.

The federal annual standard (15 μ g/m³) was not exceeded for the year. The maximum annual average was 7.63 μ g/m³ at Fargo NW.

The inhalable $PM_{2.5}$ data are summarized in Table 10.

		TABLE	. 10						
COMPARISON OF AIR QUALITY DATA WITH THE NORTH DAKOTA AMBIENT AIR OUALITY STANDARDS *									
POLLUTANT : Inhalable $PM_{2.5}$ Particulates	(µg/m³)		M A	хI	M A	0.0 + 1-	LITTE		
LOCATION	YEAR	OBS	1ST	2ND	3RD	98th %	WTD MEAN	#>35	AM>15
Beulah - North	2009	60	14.8	13.5	12.0	13.5	5.47		
Bismarck Residential	2009	119	17.8	15.7	15.1	15.1	6.39		
Bismarck Residential (BAMM)	2009	8415	27.8	26.4	23.5	16.7	6.35		
Fargo NW	2009	110	35.9	35.5	19.9	19.9	7.63	2	
TRNP - SU (Painted Canyon)	2009	61	13.8	9.9	9.4	9.9	4.12		

The highest 24-hour concentration is 35.9 $\mu g/m3$ at Fargo NW The highest Annual Weighted Mean concentration is 7.63 $\mu g/m3$ at Fargo NW

* The ambient air quality standards are:

FEDERAL Standards -1) 24-hour: 3-year average of 98th percentiles not to exceed 35 µg/m³. 2) Annual: 3-year average not to exceed 15 µg/m³.

Inhalable Continuous PM_{2.5} Particulates

Inhalable particulates are monitored continuously at eight sites. Since these data are not collected by an EPA reference or equivalent method, the data cannot be used for regulatory purposes. However, if these data were to indicate an exceedance of a standard, then a reference or equivalent method sampler must be installed to verify the data collected by these analyzers.

The maximum 1-hour average concentration was 94.4 μ g/m³ at Lostwood NWR. The maximum 24-hour average concentration was 18.9 μ g/m³ at Hannover. The maximum annual average for the year was 6.6 μ g/m³ at Hannover.

The inhalable continuous PM_{2.5} data are summarized in Table 11.

			r	Table 11							
				I OF AIR QUA AMBIENT AIF			- *				
POLLUTANT : Inhalable	Continuous PM ₂		I DAROIA	M A	X I	M A	5				
LOCATION	YEAR	NUM OBS	1 - 1ST	M A HOUR 2ND	1ST	M A 24 - 2ND	hour 3rd	4TH	MEAN	24HR #>35	AM>15
Beulah - North	2009	8635	40.7	35.6	15.0	14.8	12.9	12.8	3.4		
Dunn Center	2009	8298	38.9	33.2	15.0	14.3	14.0	13.4	3.4		
Fargo NW	2009	8642	68.9	67.2	14.7	14.6	14.5	13.9	4.2		
Hannover	2009	8565	81.3	71.7	18.9	18.2	15.9	14.2	6.6		
Lostwood NWR	2009	8315	94.4	48.4	18.1	18.1	17.1	15.7	3.8		
TRNP - NU	2009	8576	32.0	30.0	14.9	11.3	10.6	9.6	3.0		
TRNP - SU (Painted Ca	nyon)2009	8546	47.0	43.5	16.3	15.5	14.5	12.8	5.8		

The highest 1-hour concentration is 94.4 $\mu g/m3$ at Lostwood NWR The highest 24-hour concentration is 18.2 $\mu g/m3$ at Hannover The highest Annual Mean concentration is 6.6 $\mu g/m3$ at Hannover

* The ambient air quality standards are:

FEDERAL Standards -1) 24-hour: 3-year average of 98th percentiles not to exceed 35 µg/m³. 2) Annual: 3-year average not to exceed 15 µg/m³.

*** Less than 80% of the possible samples (data) were collected.

Inhalable Continuous PM₁₀ Particulates

Inhalable continuous PM₁₀ particulate concentrations were monitored at five sites.

Standards Comparison

The 24-hour state standard (150 μ g/m³) was not exceeded during the year. The maximum 24-hour concentration was 54 μ g/m³ at Dunn Center.

The annual state standard $(50 \mu g/m^3)$ was not exceeded. The maximum annual mean for the year was 12.4 μ g/m³ at Bismarck Residential.

The inhalable continuous particulate (PM_{10}) data are summarized in Table 12.

			TAI	BLE 12							
	1		ARISON OF A DAKOTA AME				*				
POLLUTANT : Inhalable C	ontinuous PM ₁₀ (µg/n	n ³)		M A	X I	M A					
		NUM	1 -	HOUR			24 – ноц			24HR	
LOCATION	YEAR	OBS	1ST	2ND	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	MEAN	#>150	AM>50
Beulah - North	2009	8628	137	135	34.0	32.0	31.0	31.0	11.0		
Bismarck Residential	2009	8585	137	124	43.0	37.0	34.0	32.0	12.4		
Dunn Center	2009	8139	248	234	54.0	52.0	37.0	35.0	11.3		
Fargo NW	2009	8679	92	90	26.0	25.0	24.0	22.0	9.0		
Lostwood NWR	2009	8322	72	67	31.0	27.0	27.0	26.0	8.5		
TRNP - NU	2009	8447	264	254	44.0	40.0	35.0	33.0	9.2		

The highest 24-hour concentration is 54.0 $\mu g/m3$ at Dunn Center The highest Annual Mean concentration is 12.4 $\mu g/m3$ at Bismarck Residential

The STATE and FEDERAL air quality standards are: 1) 150 μ g/m³ maximum averaged over a 24-hour period with no more than one expected exceedance per year. 2) 50 μ g/m³ expected annual arithmetic mean.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The state of North Dakota has relatively clean air. North Dakota is one of only 13 states to comply with all federal ambient air quality standards. The air quality in North Dakota also meets all state ambient air quality standards. Site and pollutant combinations that do not meet the 80 percent data recovery for the full year are reported as a partial year. A summary for each pollutant is provided below.

Sulfur Dioxide

Neither the state nor federal standards were exceeded at any monitoring site. The maximum concentrations and the maximum concentrations expressed as a percentage of the applicable standard were as follows: 1-hour - 111 ppb (40.6%) See page 10; 3-hour - 62 ppb (12.4%); 24-hour - 28 ppb (28.3%); annual 3.0 ppb (13.0%).

Sulfur Dioxide 5-Minute Averages

There is no SO₂ 5-minute standard currently in effect. The maximum 5-minute average was 225 ppb.

Nitrogen Dioxide

Neither the state nor federal standards were exceeded at any of the monitoring sites. The maximum concentrations and the maximum concentrations expressed as a percentage of the applicable standard were as follows: annual - 5.9 ppb (11.1%).

Ammonia

No standard is currently in effect. The maximum 1-hour average was 145.0 ppb.

Carbon Monoxide

Neither the state nor federal standard was exceeded during the year. The 1-hour maximum and maximum 8-hour concentrations and the concentrations expressed as a percentage of the applicable standard are were follows: 1-hour - 1186 ppb (3.4%); highest fourth-highest 8-hour - 700 ppb (7.7%).

Ozone

Neither the state nor federal standard was exceeded during the year. The 1-hour maximum and highest fourth-highest 8-hour concentrations and the concentrations expressed as a percentage of the applicable standard are were follows: 1-hour - 76 ppb (63.3%) See Page 21; highest fourth-highest 8-hour - 59 ppb (78.6%).

Inhalable PM_{2.5} Particulates

The federal PM_{2.5} standards were not exceeded during the year. The maximum concentrations and maximum concentrations expressed as a percentage of the standard were as follows: 24-hour - $35.9 \,\mu g/m^3 (102.5\%)$ See Page 23; annual – $6.39 \,\mu g/m^3 (42.6\%)$.

Inhalable Continuous PM2.5 Particulates

The federal standards were not applicable for this analytical method. The maximum concentrations were as follows: 24-hour - 18.9 μ g/m³ (54.0%); annual - 6.6 μ g/m³ (44.0%).

Inhalable Continuous PM₁₀ Particulates

Neither the state nor federal PM_{10} standards were exceeded during the year. The maximum concentrations and the maximum concentrations expressed as a percentage of the applicable PM_{10} standard were as follows: 24-hour – 54.0 µg/m³ (36.0%).

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REFERENCES

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APPENDICES

North Dakota and Federal Ambient Air Quality Standards

STANDARDS

In general, air pollutants are divided into two classes: primary pollutants such as sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, hydrogen sulfide, particulate matter (<2.5 microns) particulate matter (<10 microns); secondary pollutants, which are formed as the result of a chemical reaction. Sources of primary pollutants include power plants, natural gas processing plants, oil wells, oil refineries, asphalt plants, factories, wind-blown dirt, automobiles, fireplaces and incinerators. Secondary pollutants result from a primary pollutant undergoing a chemical reaction; for example, ozone is formed as a result of a photochemical reaction between hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen.

The North Dakota Ambient Air Quality Standards are established to protect public health and welfare. Effective Aug. 1, 1997, coal conversion and oil refineries were exempted from the state sulfur dioxide standards.

Table A1-1 presents the current North Dakota Ambient Air Quality Standards. Table A1-2 presents the federal Ambient Air Quality Standards. State standards must be as stringent as (but may be more stringent than) federal standards.

TABLE A1-1 North Dakota Ambient Air Quality Standards

Air Contaminants		Standards (Maximum Permissible Concentrations)	
Inhalable Particulate (PM ₁₀)	50 150	micrograms per cubic meter of air, expected annual arithmetic mean micrograms per cubic meter of air maximum 24- hour average concentration with no more than one expected exceedance per year	
Sulfur Dioxide*	0.023	parts per million (60 micrograms per cubic meter of air), maximum annual arithmetic mean concentration parts per million (260 micrograms per cubic meter of air), maximum 24-hour average concentration parts per million (715 micrograms per cubic meter of air), maximum 1-hour average concentration	
	0.099		
	0.273		
Hydrogen Sulfide	10.0	parts per million (14 milligrams per cubic meter of air), maximum instantaneous (ceiling) concentration not to be exceeded	
	0.20	parts per million (280 micrograms per cubic meter of air), maximum 1-hour average concentration not to be exceeded more than once per month	
	0.10	parts per million (140 micrograms per cubic meter of air), maximum 24-hour average concentration not to	
	0.02	be exceeded more than once per year parts per million (28 micrograms per cubic meter of air), maximum arithmetic mean concentration averaged over three consecutive months	
Carbon Monoxide	9	parts per million (10 milligrams per cubic meter of air), maximum 8-hour concentration not to be exceeded more than once per year	
	35	parts per million (40 milligrams per cubic meter of air), maximum 1-hour concentration not to be exceeded more than once per year	
Ozone	0.12	parts per million (235 micrograms per cubic meter of air), maximum 1-hour concentration not to be exceeded more than once per year	
Nitrogen Dioxide	0.053	parts per million (100 micrograms per cubic meter of air), maximum annual arithmetic mean	
Lead	1.5	micrograms per cubic meter of air, maximum arithmetic mean averaged over a calendar quarter	

* After Aug. 1, 1997, coal conversion facilities and oil refineries are subject only to the federal SO₂ standards.

TABLE A1-2 Federal Ambient Air Quality Standards

Pollutant	Description	Primary	Secondary
Inhalable	3-year average of annual arithmetic mean concentrations	$15 \ \mu g/m^3$	$15 \ \mu g/m^3$
Particulate (<2.5 microns)	3-year average of the 98 th percentile of the 24-hour concentrations	$35 \ \mu g/m^3$	$35 \ \mu g/m^3$
Inhalable Particulates (<10 microns)	Expected annual arithmetic mean	$50 \ \mu g/m^3$	$50 \ \mu g/m^3$
	99 th percentile of the 24-hour concentrations averaged over 3 years	150 μg/m ³	$150 \ \mu g/m^3$
Sulfur Dioxide	Annual arithmetic mean	0.03 ppm (80 µg/m ³)	-
	Maximum 24-hour concentration not to be exceeded more than once per year	0.14 ppm (365 μg/m ³)	-
	Maximum 3-hour concentration not to be exceeded more than once per year	-	0.5 ppm (1300 μg/m ³)
Carbon Monoxide	8-hour concentration not to be exceeded more than once per year	9 ppm (10 μg/m ³)	-
	1-hour average concentration not to be exceeded more than once per year	35 ppm (40 μg/m ³)	-
Ozone	3-year average of the annual highest 4 th highest daily maximum 8- hour concentrations, not to be exceeded	0.08 ppm	0.08 ppm
Nitrogen Dioxide	Annual arithmetic mean	0.053 ppm (100 μg/m ³)	0.053 ppm (100 μg/m ³)
Lead	Maximum arithmetic mean averaged over a calendar quarter	$1.5 \ \mu g/m^3$	$1.5 \mu g/m^3$

Air Quality Personnel Organizational Chart



A2-1 Air Quality Organizational Chart

5/27/2010

Wind and Pollution Star Charts

The figures in this appendix are arranged with the site's wind star chart in the upper left-hand position. To remove most of the wind direction bias caused by low wind speeds, wind speeds less than 5 mph were removed from the data. For department-operated sites, the pollution star charts are arranged with sulfur dioxide in the upper right-hand position. Next is either hydrogen sulfide or nitrogen dioxide. For industry networks, the wind star chart is presented first, followed by the parameters monitored at each site. There is only one MET station for each network except for the Bear Paw - McKenzie Gas Plant network, which has wind direction at each site.

The pollution star charts present the percentage of time a pollutant is detected when the wind is from a given direction. For example, a wind star chart shows a frequency of 122, and a pollution star chart shows a 66 for the same direction. This means that 66 percent of the time (80 of the possible 122 hours) the wind was greater than 5 mph from that direction and an hourly average for that pollutant had a detectable concentration.

Ozone pollution star charts are not presented because the percentage of time would be essentially 100 percent for each wind sector.





Bear Paw – MGP #5 Wind Direction Star Chart during 2009







Figure A3-1 Bear Paw - MGP





Percent of Time NO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for Beulah - North during 2009



Percent of Time NH3 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for Beulah - North during 2009



Figure A3-2 Beulah North



Percent of Time SO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for Bismarck Residential during 2009



Percent of Time NO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for Bismarck Residential during 2009



Figure A3-3 Bismarck Residential











Percent of Time SO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for DGC #12 during 2009



Percent of Time SO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for DGC #14 during 2009



Percent of Time SO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for DGC #17 during 2009





Figure A3-4 DGC (cont.)





Percent of Time NO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for Dunn Center during 2009



Figure A3-5 Dunn Center



Percent of Time SO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for Fargo NW during 2009



Percent of Time NO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for Fargo NW during 2009



Figure A3-6 Fargo NW





Percent of Time NO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for Hannover during 2009



Figure A3-7 Hannover





Percent of Time SO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for Hess - Tioga #3 during 2009



Figure A3-8 Hess-Tioga





Percent of Time NO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for Lostwood NWR during 2009



Figure A3-9 Lostwood NWR





Percent of Time NO2 Detected for a Given Wind Sector for TRNP - NU during 2009



Figure A3-10 TRNP - NU





Figure A3-11 TRNP - SU

2000-2009 Trends

The trend graphs for 2000 through 2009 are presented in alphabetical order, grouped by site, unless multiple sites would fit on a single page. Each graph depicts the maximum concentration for each applicable standard (left scale) and percentage of time an hourly concentration is detected (right scale).



Bear Paw - MPG #3 Sulfur Dioxide 5 Minute







Bear Paw - MPG #5 Sulfur Dioxide 5 Minute





Figure A4-1 Bear Paw - MGP











Figure A4-2 Beulah North





Figure A4-2 Beulah North (cont.)



Figure A4-3 Bismarck Residential





Figure A4-3 Bismarck Residential (cont.)



Figure A4-4 DGC



Figure A4-5 Dunn Center



Figure A4-6 Fargo NW



Figure A4-6 Fargo NW (cont.)





Figure A4-7 Hannover



Figure A4-8 Hess



Figure A4-9 Lostwood



Figure A4-10 TRNP - NU





Figure A4-11 TRNP - SU