



**PRAMP Board Meeting
June 24, 2021**

Item 5A: Strategic Planning – Next Steps – Goals and Strategies

Decision Requested: Board direction on Goals and Strategies for 2022-2024

Introduction

PRAMP has been guided by its Terms of Reference since 2016. The Terms of Reference include Goals, Objectives and Strategies that were drafted by the Alberta Energy Regulator and based on *Decision 2014 ABAER 005: Report of Recommendations on Odours and Emissions in the Peace River Area (March 31, 2014)*. In November 2020, the PRAMP Board of Directors decided to review its strategic direction. In Q1 2021 Directors, Members, Stakeholders and the public were invited to provide input on the results PRAMP has already achieved and the desired future direction.

The Board and Stakeholders held three planning discussions in March, April and May 2021. At the May meeting, **the Board decided by consensus that its desired future for PRAMP includes the following:**

- Work with Mercer to assess the possibility of PRAMP incorporating the two Mercer monitoring stations into the PRAMP network.
- Conduct a Network Assessment to optimize the number and locations of monitoring stations as well as the parameters monitored; the assessment would include:
 - the level of monitoring appropriate for heavy oil production in light of the current conditions (air quality data, conservation levels) and
 - changes appropriate for the network if the two Mercer stations, the PRC station and passive monitors are added to the PRAMP network.
- Continued use of micro-sensors to address community concerns where costs can be recovered from OSM funding or other sources.

The Board asked Staff to develop draft Goals aligned with these elements for the Board to review at a future meeting.

Draft Goals for the Board's Consideration

Attachment 1 provides a summary of the Board's views on the high-level results for PRAMP's current five goals. Discussions at the March 24 and April 21 meetings shaped the goal results summary and provided insights for future goals.

Staff have drafted the following Goals (WHAT we will achieve) and Strategies (HOW we will achieve them) for the Board's consideration. Once the Goals and Strategies are approved by the Board, Staff will identify Actions to deliver the Strategies.

Goal	
1. Evidence-driven verification that air quality in the Peace River area is at acceptable levels and that emissions are being minimized	
Strategies	Timing
1.1 Conduct a Monitoring Network Assessment that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the level of monitoring appropriate for heavy oil production in light of current conditions (air quality data, conservation levels) ○ changes appropriate for the network if the two Mercer stations, the PRC station and passive monitors are added to the PRAMP network 	Q4 2021 to Q1 2022 <i>(depending on budget availability)</i>
1.2 Assess results of the Network Assessment and implement changes as determined by the Board	2022
1.3 Assess the costs and benefits for PRAMP, Mercer and the community if PRAMP were to assume operation of the Mercer air monitoring network	Q4 2021
1.4 Determine whether the two Mercer stations will be incorporated into the PRAMP network	Q1 2022
1.5 Maintain operation of all PRAMP air monitoring stations in compliance with the Air Monitoring Directive unless or until a change in the network is decided by the Board and informed the Network Assessment	On-going
1.6 Data reporting meets or exceeds provincial requirements and regulatory compliance commitments	On-going
1.7 Data is analyzed to confirm that results do not exceed Alberta Ambient Air Quality Objectives and Guidelines and Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards where applicable	
Actions	
<i>To be determined after Goals and Strategies are confirmed</i>	
Goal	
2. Residents and stakeholders have timely access to air quality data and information in a manner that is readily understood	
Strategies	Timing
2.1 Engage stakeholders to identify areas for improvement with PRAMP communications (website, newsletter, social media)	Q1 2022
2.2 Develop an Indigenous Outreach Plan	Q4 2021
2.3 Micro-sensors, passive monitors and other low cost monitors are deployed to address community concerns and to assess viability of lower cost monitoring	On-going

2.4 Deliver timely, relevant and accessible air quality data so that residents can make informed choices in support of human health and the environment	On-going
Actions	
<i>To be determined after Goals and Strategies are confirmed</i>	
Goal	
3. Educators, community groups and citizens can access resources to increase understanding of and promote healthy air quality	
Strategies	Timing
3.1 Develop and implement audience-specific approaches to improve air quality literacy in the Peace River area	On-going
3.2 Establish and maintain relationships with educators, community groups, municipalities, Indigenous communities and environmental groups in order to raise awareness about air quality, understand any air quality concerns and foster partnerships to achieve mutual	On-going
Actions	
<i>To be determined after Goals and Strategies are confirmed</i>	
Goal	
4. Recognized as an independent not-for-profit organization and Airshed that is focused on continuous improvement and responsible leadership in air quality monitoring	
Strategies	Timing
4.1 Develop a consolidated Operating Plan that includes Oil Sands Monitoring requirements, any other monitoring, outreach and governance initiatives	Q4 2021
4.2 Engage with and support the Alberta Airsheds Council to leverage shared communication resources, promote air monitoring excellence and advance the effectiveness and efficiency of PRAMP and other Airsheds	On-going
Actions	
<i>To be determined after Goals and Strategies are confirmed</i>	



Attachment 1

**PRAMP Goal Results Summary
LOOKING BACK**

(Based on stakeholder input and discussion at March 24, 2021 and April 21, 2021 PRAMP meeting)

Goals	Outcomes March 2021
<p><i>1. Assist in verifying that air quality is improving, and odours are being minimized as a result of operational and regulatory improvements.</i></p> <p>Continuous ambient monitoring results for total hydrocarbon, non-methane hydrocarbon and sulphur compounds will be analyzed to determine trends over time. Odour complaints will be correlated to monitoring results to verify that operational and regulatory improvements are effective.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Science-based data from the 4 air monitoring stations and the decline in odour complaints indicates that this goal is being achieved.
<p><i>2. Operate transparently and give residents and stakeholders timely access to data and information in a manner that is readily understood.</i></p> <p>PRAMP’s operation will be transparent to the members and the public. A communication plan will be developed to provide real-time access to monitoring data on a website. Regular, readily understood summaries of monitoring results from Goal #1, 3 and 4 will also be provided.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Daily reports and website information meet residents and stakeholders needs for timely and credible data.
<p><i>3. Demonstrate that operators have effective control mechanisms.</i></p> <p>The ambient monitoring results and odour complaints will be analyzed to determine if source control mechanisms for emissions result in improved air quality (see Goal #1 above). Results of AER odour inspection sweeps of facilities will be reported.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The air quality monitoring results indicate effective controls have been implemented by operators in the area. ▪ Air quality indicators have improved significantly between 2010 and 2021 and have been relatively stable from mid-2014 onwards. This timeframe coincides with Directive 84 requirements for industry to reduce venting and transition to conservation.
<p><i>4. Verify that air quality is at acceptable levels and that emissions residents are exposed to are below toxic thresholds.</i></p> <p>Canister sampling for volatile organic compounds and reduced sulphur compound concentrations will be</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As a result of data from PRAMP triggered canisters, Alberta Health has been able to confirm that samples do not exceed health exposure thresholds. More fulsome analysis from Alberta Health is in progress.

<p>compared to health exposure thresholds defined by Alberta Health. Alberta Health will review relevant information available from other jurisdictions and recommend suitable health exposure thresholds. PRAMP will compare measured compound concentrations to the recommended exposure thresholds to provide an indicator of what compounds are a potential health concern. Odour thresholds from the Proceeding and the Stantec report will also be compared to measurements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Canister data is valuable for people in the Peace River area and for people in other parts of the province experiencing similar thresholds and emissions.
<p><i>5. Maintain its status as an independent Not-for-Profit Organization and Airshed that is focused on continuous improvement and responsible growth.</i></p> <p>Based on the outcome of Goals 1, 3 and 4, PRAMP may modify the monitoring network and the canister sampling/analysis program, recommend additional studies for specific compounds, and/or recommend further emission source controls.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The strategic planning initiative is an indication that PRAMP is focused on continuous improvement and responsible growth.