

Air Advisory -

The Sydney Tar Ponds Agency is reporting an air exceedance at the Curry's Lane fixed air monitoring station.

Data collected as part of the cleanup project's Ambient Air Monitoring Program confirms there was a Total Suspended Particulate dust exceedance on November 23, 2012. A concentration of 131 micrograms/m³ was reported over a 24 hour period. The monitoring program criterion is 120 micrograms/m³.

There was construction activity on the Coke Ovens site the day the sample was collected. The air monitoring station was downwind of project activities. Review of the real time data collected during the air exceedance does not support that project construction activities were the only potential source of the increase in dust.

Other activities can also contribute to this type of air exceedance, including vehicle traffic.

Ambient air monitoring has been conducted around the Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens sites since 1989 using fixed air monitoring stations strategically placed in nearby locations. They operate every six days and measure air quality for a 24-hour period, corresponding with the six-day National Air Pollution Surveillance (NAPS) schedule.

All historical data is available on the Agency's website, www.tarpondscleanup.ca