

Air Toxics Science Advisory Committee (ATSAC)

Meeting 4: January 15, 2025, 11:00am-12:15 pm PT

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Attendees

ATSAC Members	
John Budroe	California Environmental Protection Agency (retired)
John Stanek	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
John Vandenberg	Duke University
Qiaoxiang (Daisy) Dong	California Environmental Protection Agency
Susan Tilton	Oregon State University
Project Team	
Ali Mirzakhali	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Apollonia Goeckner	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Dana Crosby	Oregon Health Authority (OHA)
David Farrer	Oregon Health Authority (OHA)
Holly Dixon	Oregon Health Authority (OHA)
J. R. Giska	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Kristen Martin	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Susan MacMillan	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Facilitation Team	
Ben Duncan	Kearns & West
Arpana Nautiyal	Kearns & West

Meeting slides can be found at <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/aq/Documents/ATSACM4slides.pdf>

Welcome

Ali Mirzakhali, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), opened the fourth meeting of the Air Toxics Science Advisory Committee (ATSAC) and thanked the ATSAC members for participating in this process and the DEQ and OHA team for their time and effort in developing materials for this meeting.

Ben Duncan, Kearns & West (K&W) facilitator, reviewed the Zoom webinar protocols, facilitated introductions from the DEQ-OHA project team, and conducted a roll call of ATSAC members. Ben reviewed the meeting agenda, which included 1) Welcome, 2) Background, 3) Technical Review Updates, 4) ATSAC Document Review, 5) ATSAC Workbook Review and 6) Next Steps and ATSAC Feedback.

Background

Holly Dixon, Oregon Health Authority (OHA), began the meeting by reviewing background information (slides 5-10). DEQ and OHA are currently reviewing the inhalation TRVs used in DEQ's air quality programs. This is the first time that the state is reviewing and updating these TRVs. The current TRVs were originally adopted into administrative rule in 2018. Currently, they are at the ATSAC step in the

rulemaking process. A standard DEQ rulemaking process includes a Rules Advisory Committee, a Fiscal Advisory Committee, and a Public Comment Period, which will occur later in the process.

Holly also shared the list of sources of toxicity information that DEQ considers to be authoritative in terms of their scientific rigor and comprehensive methods for producing toxicity information. These “authoritative sources” are the U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), and Oregon DEQ in consultation with the ATSAC. These authoritative sources are in Oregon Administrative Rule, which were adopted by DEQ’s governing board (the Environmental Quality Commission). In 2021, Oregon DEQ in consultation with ATSAC was added as an authoritative source, meaning that DEQ in consultation with ATSAC can develop TRVs and consider TRVs developed by organizations other than U.S. EPA, U.S. ATSDR, and CalEPA. Holly reviewed the ATSAC’s role, which includes advising DEQ and OHA on the development of TRVs, reviewing and providing feedback on TRVs proposed by DEQ, and recognizing scientific uncertainties and the development of new information in the field related to DEQ’s TRVs.

Holly also reviewed the previous three ATSAC meetings and reminded the committee members that all previous meeting materials are available online on the [ATSAC website](#). The first ATSAC meeting in October 2022 was an orientation that covered information about DEQ’s air quality regulatory program, TRV definitions, and the purpose of the ATSAC. The second ATSAC meeting was held in January 2023 and during this meeting the ATSAC members provided feedback on the DEQ-OHA project team’s plan for reviewing and updating DEQ’s inhalation TRVs. This feedback was very helpful and the team made changes to the overall TRV review process in response to that feedback, and these changes are summarized in [this document](#). For example, ATSAC members recommended that the DEQ-OHA project team should gather additional TRV information to inform TRV selection, such as point of departure method and information on time adjustments. The DEQ-OHA project team has added this information to the TRV review tool and collected all this information on each candidate TRV. The ATSAC members also requested to see all the candidate TRVs along with the one DEQ is proposing for selection, and the team has incorporated this information into the ATSAC workbooks. The third ATSAC meeting was held in April 2024. During this meeting, the DEQ-OHA project team gathered feedback from ATSAC members on a petition to change DEQ’s manganese TRV for acute exposure. After receiving this feedback during and after the meeting, the agencies developed a proposal for the acute manganese TRV. The team prepared [a memo on DEQ’s proposal](#) which was sent to the ATSAC members and posted online in Summer 2024. The purpose of this fourth ATSAC meeting was to kick off the current series of ATSAC meetings to discuss the overall TRV update process and specific TRV proposals.

Questions and Discussion:

- **John Vandenberg:** Are there opportunities for public comment throughout the ATSAC and DEQ rulemaking process, or is it only at the end of the process? Will the ATSAC hear any public comments?
 - **J.R. Giska:** The DEQ-OHA project team is seeking to limit direct interaction for the ATSAC with questions and comments from the public since the ATSAC members are volunteers whose role is focused on providing technical input. OHA and DEQ will bring proposals consulted on by the ATSAC to a Rulemaking Advisory Committee (RAC), which will review those materials and have a public comment period. If issues arise during the RAC

that need to come back to the ATSAC for clarification, the project team will lead that process as needed.

- **J.R.:** The rules also allow for a petition process, which is another way that non-ATSAC members can contribute to the process. Thus far, one petition was received to adjust the manganese acute TRV value, which the ATSAC discussed in Meeting #3.
- **John V.** asked clarifying questions about the concentrations and definitions for the TRVs. Is the TRV equal to a one in a million cancer risk? Is the non-cancer TRV equal to a reference concentration?
 - **Holly:** The team will recirculate a fact sheet that includes DEQ's definitions for chronic non-cancer, acute, and cancer TRVs to ATSAC members:
<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/aq/Documents/ProposedTRVforATSAC.pdf>.

Technical Review Updates

Holly reviewed the technical review work that the team has conducted since ATSAC Meeting #2 in January 2023 and shared an overview of the proposed TRV changes with the ATSAC (slides 12-15). This work included the following categories and tasks:

- TRV Tool Revisions:
 - Integrated ATSAC feedback
 - Revised the TRV tool to contain more derivation parameters on candidate TRVs
 - Tested the TRV tool
 - Identified the starting list of 600+ air contaminants
- TRV Data Entry:
 - Searched for TRV info from authoritative sources
 - Searched additional sources for TRVs for high priority contaminants
 - Modified or adopted 184 TRVs from other sources where necessary
 - Selected TRVs for proposal when multiple candidate TRVs were available
- Quality Control:
 - Designed a quality control process
 - Hired Eastern Research Group (ERG) to do the quality control work
 - Reviewed ERG feedback
 - Integrated revisions into the TRV Tool
- Review Material Development:
 - Planned a suite of materials to help ATSAC review the TRV proposals
 - Wrote eight supporting documents for ATSAC
 - Created two Excel workbooks for ATSAC
- Process Development & Project Management

Overall, the state is proposing a total of 624 TRVs for 377 toxic air contaminants. Of these 624 TRVs, 51% of these TRVs are the exact same as the TRV from 2018. 32% of the 624 proposed TRVs are new TRVs, meaning that there was no TRV in 2018. The remaining 17% of the 624 TRVs are different from the 2018 TRV. There are 238 proposed TRVs where TRV information was available from more than one authoritative source. In response to feedback at ATSAC meeting #2, we put together an excel workbook where we highlighted cases where there were multiple candidate TRVs available to choose from and

provided derivation information for each TRV candidate and highlighted the TRV we selected for proposal. In addition, there are 184 proposed TRVs where “DEQ in consultation with ATSAC” is the authoritative source. The OHA-DEQ team is requesting consultation with ATSAC members on these 184 proposed TRVs.

DEQ and OHA’s request of the ATSAC members is to carefully review the documents and workbooks related to the TRV review and be prepared to share answers to the discussion questions during the upcoming ATSAC meetings. If the ATSAC members have any questions, they are encouraged to reach out to agency staff via email.

ATSAC Document Review

Holly reviewed the documents that the DEQ-OHA project team has prepared and provided to the ATSAC members (slides 19-20). The team showed where these documents are located on the [ATSAC website](#) and provided an overview of each of the documents and their purpose. These documents are listed and linked below:

- [Document 1: Overview of TRV Review](#)
- [Document 2: Quality Control of Toxicity Reference Values](#)
- [Document 3: ATSAC Meetings #5-7 Discussion Questions](#)
- [Document 4: Proposed TRVs Where DEQ is the Authoritative Source](#)
- [Document 5: Proposed Groupings of Toxic Air Contaminants](#)
- [Document 6: Proposed TRVs Using PPRTV Screening Values as the Authoritative Source](#)
- [Document 7: Proposed TRVs Not Yet Finalized by Authoritative Sources](#)
- [Document 8: Diesel Particulate Matter \(DPM\) Framing Document](#)

Questions and Discussion:

- **John V.** asked how new updates to TRVs from authoritative sources or other updates or revisions to scientific documents can be reflected or incorporated in the workbooks over time.
 - **Holly:** The DEQ/OHA team is tracking TRVs that are not yet finalized and are in draft or public comment mode. In Document 7, the team lists the cutoff date used to prepare for these ATSAC meetings and their proposal for handling them. The team is interested in ATSAC feedback on that intended process.
 - **John V.** suggested including a column to the table in Document 7 with the date so it is possible to update the values in response to new information and track those changes.
- **Daisy Dong** asked whether the DEQ/OHA team is looking for the ATSAC members to check the calculations in Document 4 and the workbooks for any errors.
 - **Holly:** The team is primarily looking for ATSAC member feedback on the overall process and approach for TRV adjustments and modifications. The team tried to do quality control and double check the calculations before sharing these materials with the ATSAC. While the team would appreciate the ATSAC members sharing if any errors are found, they want to be mindful of the ATSAC members’ time and request that the majority of review time is spent on the overall process.

ATSAC Workbook Review

Holly reviewed the Excel workbooks that the DEQ-OHA project team has provided to the ATSAC members (slides 22-23). These workbooks are listed and linked below:

- [ATSAC Workbook 1: DEQ Proposed TRVs](#)
- [ATSAC Workbook 2: TRV Derivation](#)

Workbook 1 and Workbook 2 share different information about the TRV proposals. Workbook 1 is a broad overview of all proposed TRVs and is anticipated to be used as a quick reference when reviewing documents. Workbook 2 includes more detailed derivation information, and the purpose of this workbook is to share detailed information about the derivation of inhalation TRVs. This workbook also highlights when there were multiple candidate TRVs available to choose from and which TRV option DEQ is proposing.

The first tab in each workbook is the Information Tab, which includes a description of the purpose of the document and an explanation of each subsequent tab and is the best place to refer to if you have questions about the content on a tab. The information in the workbooks is color-coded with blue representing cancer, yellow representing chronic noncancer, and green representing acute noncancer TRVs. The ATSAC members are requested to review Tabs 2-4 of Workbook 2, which contain only toxic air contaminants that have TRVs available from more than one authoritative source and a TRV that DEQ is proposing to change from existing 2018 rule. ATSAC members can record their feedback in Document 3 and/or in the ATSAC comment column on the workbook tabs. The appendices (tabs 5-6) are provided as a reference if ATSAC members have derivation questions while reviewing other documents.

Questions and Discussion:

- **John V.** asked if the ATSAC members should provide concurrence or affirmation with the approach in their notes in addition to noting any concerns or issues.
 - **Holly:** Yes, it would be helpful for ATSAC members to provide feedback in either direction to note that ATSAC members have reviewed the information and how they feel about the DEQ/OHA team's proposed process.
 - **Holly:** There are multiple ways that ATSAC members can record their notes and provide feedback, including the discussion questions document and the ATSAC Notes column in Workbook 2. ATSAC members can use whichever resource is most helpful for them to record their thoughts.
- **John V.** asked if a change made in one of the workbooks will automatically populate the other workbook.
 - **Holly:** No, the workbooks are separate.
- **Daisy** clarified that Workbook 1 is a summary table of the proposed values while the detailed information on the derivation process is provided in Workbook 2, and asked if the ATSAC members should focus their review on Workbook 2.
 - **Holly:** Yes, Workbook 1 is a broader overview and should be a helpful resource while Workbook 2 provides more detailed TRV derivation information, especially if you would like to see percent change from the 2018 value. It is important for ATSAC members to

spend time reviewing and providing feedback on Tabs 2-4 of Workbook 2 because there are multiple options that DEQ is selecting from, and they are changing from 2018.

- **David Farrer, OHA:** Only chemicals that meet certain criteria are in the colored tabs of workbook 2, e.g., there were multiple TRV options to select from. The appendices have the derivation information for all of the TRVs. In Workbook 2, filtering is helpful, but sorting will make the formatting more difficult to review.
- **John Stanek** asked whether the workbook copies are shared or downloaded.
 - **Holly:** Each ATSAC member has a downloaded copy of their own workbook, and the team would appreciate receiving a copy with individual ATSAC members' comments at the end of the process.
 - **Susan:** What are the next steps for this process? What is the focus of the next ATSAC meetings?
 - **Holly:** Clarified this will be covered in the next section.

Next Steps and ATSAC Feedback

Holly reviewed next steps for the ATSAC members and the upcoming series of ATSAC meetings (slides 26-27). The upcoming ATSAC meeting agendas will follow the discussion questions in the same order that they appear in Document 3. ATSAC members were encouraged to reach out to Holly and David with OHA if they have any questions and provided their contact information.

Ben thanked everyone for participating and adjourned the meeting.