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August 1, 2012

Subject: Poor Air Quality and High Particulate Matter Events in the Lakeland Region

From July 13 – 16, 2012, several regions of the Province were affected by poor air quality due to large forest fires burning near Grande Prairie. The LICA region was impacted by these fires and as a result, recorded several exceedences of the 24-hour Ambient Air Quality Objective for particulate matter. The table below provides a summary of the measurements that LICA made during this period:

Reference #	Date	Air Quality Station/Region	24-Hr. Avg. Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)
260734	13-Jul	Cold Lake South	89.1
260735	13-Jul	St. Lina	92.6
260736	13-Jul	Elk Point	87.4
260776	14-Jul	Cold Lake South	55.3
260777	14-Jul	St. Lina	44.3
260778	14-Jul	Elk Point	46.0
260885	16-Jul	Cold Lake South	36.7
260886	16-Jul	St. Lina	33.9

The high risk, poor air quality events had largely tapered off by July 16th and air quality returned to an acceptable level by July 17th. Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development issued health advisories regarding the poor air quality events caused by the forest fires and LICA assisted in the dissemination of this information by notifying our membership of the developing high risk air quality situation.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Michael Bisaga
Airshed Program Manager
Lakeland Industry and Community Association