

MEMORANDUM NOTE DE SERVICE

DATE

January 17, 1975

FROM: H. Chambers
DE: Senior Project Engineer

Our file Notre référence

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TO: FILE
A:

Your file Votre référence

SUBJECT: RE: CBC INTERVIEW - AIR MONITORING
SUJET:

On Tuesday, January 14, 1975 Ms. M. J. Wylie contacted me requesting an interview on air monitoring by E.P.S. in the Yellowknife area. After consultation with Mr. C. A. Lewis, the interview took place that afternoon.

1. NAPS Station. I described the installation on the Bay store, the 6th-day sampling program in conjunction with some 65 other stations in Canada. The question arose of Yellowknife having the highest reading in Canada for 1 month during the Spring of 73. She questioned me as to Yellowknife being the most polluted spot in Canada at that time. I replied that this applied to total particulates only (actually dust) and the high reading could probably be attributed to all the dust and dirt after the spring runoff. I indicated that small towns on the Prairies could easily have the highest particulate readings in Canada in the summer but this certainly doesn't mean they are the most polluted spots. In response as to what analysis are done to the particulate samples, I stated that only lead determinations are done and Yellowknife rates relatively low.

2. SO₂ Monitor. I stated E.P.S. installed an SO₂ monitor on the Bay during the 73-74 winter to determine if high levels of SO₂ are noted with the temperature inversions experienced in the winter. These have been notable periods of SO₂ concentrations but these are infrequent and the source could not be determined without more extensive investigation.

3. CO Monitor. Since significant levels of CO were noted in Whitehorse last winter during inversions, E.P.S. is presently installing a CO monitor in Yellowknife for a 3 month period to determine if the same situation is present in Yellowknife.

4. Arsenic Study - Points Mentioned

(i) Study initiated for 12 week period April - June, 1973. Problems with laboratory discrepancies in analysis between Edmonton and Ottawa - theory that at the higher temp-

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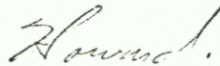
eratures the arsenic may not all be precipitating out but a portion passing through the filter.

(ii) During the winter of 73-74 a bubbler sampler was made at Ottawa to determine if As was passing through the filter. These were installed and tested May, June and July 1974. Indications are that insignificant amounts of As pass through the filters, therefore filter results are indicative of the tone levels of arsenic in the atmosphere.

(iii) In November 1974, a full time sampling schedule (2-3 times per week) was initiated to obtain year round results. Ms. Wylie asked when results would be available from this study and I indicated it would be at least one year.

5. General.

- sample site locations were described - Giant, NRHQ, and airport.
- objective of study: To insure ourselves and residents of Yellowknife that Giant is, in fact, removing arsenic from the air effluent to a sufficient degree to protect the environs.
- indicated the As in water aspect had been studied and this is a start at filling in the missing data with regards to As in the air and on the land. E.P.S. in conjunction with N.H. & W. plan to increase studies on the ambient and terrestrial aspects of As in the Yellowknife area.



H. Chambers
Senior Project Engineer

cc. C. A. Lewis
H. Veldhuizen