

Advancing More Sustainable Ports

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“National Conversation” on Ports

- **Sept 24, 2013 – Promoting Port Stakeholder Success**
Industry stakeholders showcased successes & challenges
140 participants
- **Jan 14, 2014 – Collaborative Solutions & Community**
Scientists and community groups discussed experiences, concerns and lessons learned about port impacts
381 participants
- **March 4, 2014 – Advancing Sustainable Solutions**
Stakeholder perspectives on assessing port emissions, technical solutions and lessons learned
210 participants
- All webinar presentations, transcripts and Q & A’s are posted on EPA’s ports web site at <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/ports>
- EPA also invited feedback via talkaboutports@epa.gov email box

Key Themes of Listening Sessions

- Ports matter
- Participants want both prosperity and health
- Benefits of collaboration
- Demand for solutions directly impacting neighboring communities

Advancing Sustainable Ports Summit

- EPA convened a Summit to continue dialogue and momentum through face to face interaction with stakeholders
- Summit held April 8, 2014 in Baltimore, MD
215 experts and stakeholders attended
- Goals:
 - Exchange information and insights
 - Take a deeper dive into the challenges and solutions
 - Build and strengthen collaboration

Summit Agenda

- **Keynote - Bob Perciasepe**
Announced EPA's intent to develop a program to promote more environmentally sustainable ports, starting with air
- **Insights from Listening Sessions**
Chris Grundler, Dir. OTAQ and R10 RA Dennis McLerran
- **Community Engagement: Historical/Path Forward**
- **Panel: Strategies to Improve Environmental Profile of Ports**

Summit Agenda, continued

- Grant Awards Announcement: Chris Grundler
\$4.2M in DERA for clean diesel port projects
- 3 concurrent work groups:
 - Measuring port environmental performance
 - Incentivizing environmental improvement
 - Port Expansion: Illustrative Case Study
- Summary & Discussion of WG key points

*Invited conversation throughout Summit
using #cleanerports*

Key Summit Take-aways

- Provided a venue to share successes/forum for different opinions
- Participants are ready to collaborate on solutions
- Feedback consistent with themes heard during webinars
 - Ports matter to jobs and the economy
 - Health impacts of diesel exhaust; other concerns (water, soil, noise, congestion, cumulative health impacts)
 - Ports are complex – solutions must be tailored for each port
 - Role for government as convener; ensure level playing field
 - Consider financial, technical and operational approaches
 - Effective strategies demonstrated - but need to fit port
 - Need consistency across data and assessment methods

Technical Work Shop

- April 9, 2014 in Baltimore
 - Approx. 30 participants drawn from EDF stakeholder group and Summit attendees*
- Objectives:
 - Discuss merits of EPA-led Ports Sustainability Program
 - Foster stakeholder interaction
- Process:
 - Exercise to elicit participants' response to “straw” guiding principles
 - Facilitated discussion to identify key areas for EPA to consider going forward

Common Themes

- Ports are just 1 node in larger goods movement supply chain. All nodes have different business/mgmt conditions
- Importance of level playing field
- Continual improvement program must drive real change, not just “recognition”
- Cross-agency coordination is critical
- Include some aspect of best practices/info sharing
- Program needs to be flexible to evolve over time
 - If start with air, should eventually include other environmental media
- Interact with communities – support economic viability and reduce cumulative impact

Key Considerations

- How to design program to drive change?
- What will program encompass?
- What data will be used?
- Build on efforts of progressive ports
- Include aspect of community involvement
- Engage/mentor ports trailing on the environmental movement

Opportunity for MSTRS

- Creation of a workgroup within MSTRS to advise EPA on port sustainability
- Charge aimed at informing the development and the implementation of an EPA-led voluntary ports initiative
- Focus of recommendations for these two areas:
 - How to effectively measure air quality and GHG performance of ports and/or terminals within ports
 - Design elements for an EPA led voluntary program

Charge for MSTRS Ports Initiative Workgroup

EPA asks for recommendations to inform the development and implementation of an EPA-led voluntary initiative to improve port environmental achievement and air quality for port communities.

The workgroup should consider past MSTRS recommendations, existing port environmental improvement programs, ports in the context of the broader transportation supply chain and information from EPA's Ports Assessment as it becomes available.

More specifically EPA asks for recommendations on:

How to effectively measure air quality and GHG performance of ports and/or terminals within ports.

Design elements for an EPA lead voluntary program to improve environmental performance as goods move through ports.

- Begin with air quality and climate improvements
- Include as program elements requirements for meaningful engagement between the port communities and the ports
- Explore opportunities to address other environmental media