

Initial Study Report Meeting

Study 15.9 Air Quality

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Study 15.9 Status

ISR documents (ISR Part D Overview):

- Initial Study Report: Parts A, B and C (June 3, 2014)
- 2015 Study Completion Report (SCR) (November 4, 2015)

Status:

- Study is complete.

Study 15.9 Objectives

- Assess the current conditions of the area against applicable state and national air quality standards
- Review and summarize existing air monitoring data in the area
- Determine attainment status of the study area (i.e., unclassifiable/attainment, non-attainment, maintenance)
- Quantify short-term (construction) and long-term (operational) emissions
- If applicable, analyze ground-level impacts using air dispersion models
- If applicable, evaluate indirect mobile source emissions from additional traffic generated
- Compare Project emissions to the Without-Project alternative
- Evaluate potential emission reductions from Railbelt fossil-fuel utility plants if the Project is operating
- Develop information to be used in the identification of potential mitigation measures, if necessary, to reduce emissions during construction

Study 15.9 Components

- Document Existing Conditions (ISR Part A, Section 4.1; pg 2)
- Estimate Project Emissions (ISR Part A, Section 4.2; pg 2)
- Summarize Baseline Fossil Fuel Generation Emissions (ISR Part A, Section 4.3; pg 3)
- Analyze and Compare Emissions (ISR Part A, Section 4.4; pg 4)
- Identify Best Management Practices (ISR Part A, Section 4.5; pg 4)

Study 15.9 Variances

- The quantitative analysis of future emissions associated with Project construction contemplated in the Study Plan (RSP Section 15.9.4.2) was deferred in 2013 due to ongoing work associated with other licensing studies and investigations that are necessary for this work.
- The current level of design information in the Engineering Feasibility Report is not sufficient for a quantitative analysis. Instead, a qualitative assessment of Project-related emissions was included in the Study Completion Report.

Study 15.9 Summary of Results in ISR (ISR Part A, Section 5)

- Existing meteorological and air quality information were reviewed and summarized to document existing conditions of the study area
- Attainment designation was reviewed and summarized
- Project emissions were qualitatively summarized
- Railbelt fossil fuel generation emissions were summarized
- Electric generation emissions were compared With Project and Without Project
- Preliminary identification of Best Management Practices was completed

Study 15.9 Summary of Results since ISR

Study Completion Report

- Reviewed and summarized on-site meteorological data collected by AEA at the Dam site and two nearby locations.
- Updated the climate and meteorology table (Table 5.1-1) to reflect the most recent (2014) meteorological data collected from nearby stations.
- Updated ambient air quality tables (Tables 5.1-3 to 5.1-6) to reflect the most recent three years (2012 to 2014) of available data collected by ADEC and NPS.
- Reviewed and incorporated relevant information from AEA Engineering Feasibility Report into the qualitative With Project emission discussion (Section 5.2).
- Reviewed and summarized most recent dust control research conducted by DOT&PF and University of Alaska Fairbanks Transportation Center and incorporated into BMP Section 5.5.

AEA's Proposed Modifications to Study 15.9 (ISR Part D, Section 7)

- None beyond variances noted.

Steps to Complete Study 15.9

- The data collection, data analysis, and reporting for this Air Quality Study successfully met all study objectives in the FERC-approved Study Plan with the stated variances and modifications.
- The study was completed and the Study Completion Report was filed.

Licensing Participants Proposed Modifications to Study 15.9?

- Agencies
- CIRWG members and Ahtna
- Public