Community Air Monitoring

In response to feedback we heard from the community, Suncor Energy (U.S.A.) Inc. committed to spearheading the development of an enhanced air monitoring program for the Commerce City and North Denver area. The program will be run by an independent expert and will support other Colorado regional air monitoring initiatives.

Program overview and community engagement:
- Since announcing this project at the end of 2020, we have been actively meeting with regulators and other government stakeholders to help shape the program.
- As a next step, Suncor will hold meetings with the community in May to gather input on the program before it launches later this summer. Exact dates and information about how to register to come.
- We welcome and encourage our neighbors, public officials, the environmental community, and monitoring experts to participate. At these meetings, attendees will have the opportunity to provide input on a variety of program components such as how many community air monitors will be installed and where some of the monitors are placed in the community.

Monitoring technologies:
- Suncor plans to select a combination of monitoring technologies to be implemented and tested by the independent expert during an initial evaluation phase, with long-term solutions to follow.
- These may include sensor-based monitors, summa canisters, gas chromatograph monitors, mobile testing labs, and other established technologies.
- The sensor-based systems will be able to provide real-time results to the public for the following compounds: carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO2), hydrogen sulfide (H2S), nitrogen oxides (NO), nitrogen dioxide (NO2), particulate matter (PM 2.5), and total volatile organic compounds (VOCs).
- The other systems can measure more compounds at different time periods, including benzene, other VOCs, and hydrogen cyanide (HCN).
- These systems will also measure weather conditions, including wind direction and wind speed.

Program timeline:
- Initial conversations with regulators and other partners and selection of independent expert taking place in the first quarter of 2021.
- Community meetings to begin in late spring of 2021.
- After receiving community feedback, we will finalize program components to be implemented in summer of 2021 for an evaluation period, likely up to one year.
- After the systems are tested, we will fund implementation of longer-term community monitoring solutions by an independent expert.
- Suncor will continue engaging with the community to obtain feedback and input on the program throughout the initial evaluation phase.

Current Suncor community air monitoring:
- Currently, for refinery shutdowns, other planned events, and unplanned incidents, Suncor personnel monitor the air in the communities near the Commerce City Refinery using highly specialized monitors that can detect carbon monoxide (CO), hydrogen sulfide (H2S), sulfur dioxide (SO2), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs).