Glossary of Terms

"Ambient Air" means the air that is breathed by the general public in the community.

"Baghouse" means equipment that uses fabric bags or cartridge filters to remove particulate matter from the air.

"Concentration" means the amount of a contaminant in a volume of air.

"Contaminant" means any solid, liquid, gas, odour, heat, sound, vibration, radiation or combination of any of them resulting from human activities that may have the potential to cause harm to individuals or the environment.

"Fugitive emissions" means emissions that escape from industrial processes and equipment that are not controlled or collected.

"Geometric mean is a type of mean or average, which indicates the central tendency or typical value of a set of numbers. The use of a geometric mean "normalizes" the ranges being averaged, so that no range dominates the weighting, and a given percentage change in any of the properties has the same effect on the geometric mean. The geometric mean is similar to the arithmetic mean, except that the numbers are multiplied and then the *n*th root (where n is the count of numbers in the set) of the resulting product is taken.

"Hivol" means high volume air sampler which is used to collect samples of airborne matter on a filter for subsequent analysis, but pulling air through louvers onto the filter. Lab analysis of the filter sample determines the total particulate present in the air that was sampled and a list of the metals in the particulate matter collected in the sample.

"Mean" means the arithmetic average of a group of numbers.

"Median" means the middle value in a group of numbers, above and below which are an equal number of values.

“µg/m3” means micrograms (1 microgram equals 10^{-6} grams, a unit of measurement for mass) per cubic meter of air; used as a measure of concentration.

“Pollutant” means a contaminant other than heat, sound, vibration or radiation, and includes any substance from which a pollutant is derived.

“PM2.5” (particles equal to or less than 2.5 microns in diameter): These particles can be inhaled deep into the lungs. This fraction is sometimes referred to as the “respirable or fine fraction”. These particles are so small that they can only be detected with an electron microscope. Sources of fine particles include all types of combustion, including motor vehicles, the burning of wood and other materials, and some industrial processes.

“**PM10”** (particles between 2.5 and 10 microns in diameter): These particles can be inhaled, but most will be trapped in the nose and exhaled. As a result, this fraction is sometimes referred to as the “inhalable or coarse fraction”. Sources of coarse particles include crushing or grinding operations, and dust stirred up by vehicles travelling on roads.

“Particulate matter or TSP” means total suspended particulate matter less than 44 microns in diameter. The portion that is between 10 and 44 microns in size is too large to be inhaled; its worst effect would be soiling of materials (houses, cars, etc.) and would originate from sources such as wind-blown dust from stockpiles.

“Regulation” means Ontario Regulation 419/05: Air Pollution – Local Air Quality under the Environmental Protection Act as amended from time to time.

“Site” means the location where the monitoring station is situated**.**