

May 2, 2025

Hello Jean Mendoza,

We appreciate you reaching out to us and bringing the case study from John Hopkins and the VOC analysis to our attention. This information is very useful. We share your commitment to clean air, and your interest in gaining a greater understanding of air pollution in the Lower Yakima Valley through monitoring and modeling efforts.

With this in mind we have listed below are a number of activities Ecology is currently undertaking to gain a better understanding of air quality you may be interested in:

- The 2025 Environmental Justice Report will include an assessment of health impacts from Criteria Air Pollutants for the Lower Yakima Valley and is related to our work with overburdened communities highly impacted by air pollution under the Climate Commitment Act. The report should be released at the end of the calendar year. Community Summaries of the 2023 report can be found at: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2302017.html>.
- We are nearing the end of our modeling study to determine the air pollutants that form secondary particulate matter in the Lower Yakima Valley and potential control approaches. We will have more to share with you and others upon the completion of the study.
- Ecology is in the planning stages of a multi-pollutant mobile monitoring study of overburdened communities and Tribes with elevated levels of outdoor air pollution across the state, which will include areas of Yakima Valley. The study's objective is to enhance understanding of a variety of air pollutants at a fine scale and a more local level. Currently the statewide spending freeze has temporarily halted the hiring of an outside contractor to conduct the mobile air monitoring. When the study is completed, we will publish a final report and share key findings via a public webpage.
- We also want to mention that EPA, Ecology, and the Yakama Nation are collaborating to monitor chemical composition of fine particle pollution (PM2.5). The air monitoring is occurring on Yakama Nation lands in the city of Toppenish.
- Again, there is a lot happening with monitoring and modeling efforts involving the Lower Yakima Valley. In each of these efforts we will make sure to keep you informed on any findings and documents which you be interest you in. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks

Rob

Rob Dengel

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