


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Algoma Steel Mill Informal Consultation Update

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Consultation partners

- Environment Canada (EC), Ontario Ministry of Environment (MOE), Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan (ITCMI), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada



Ontario

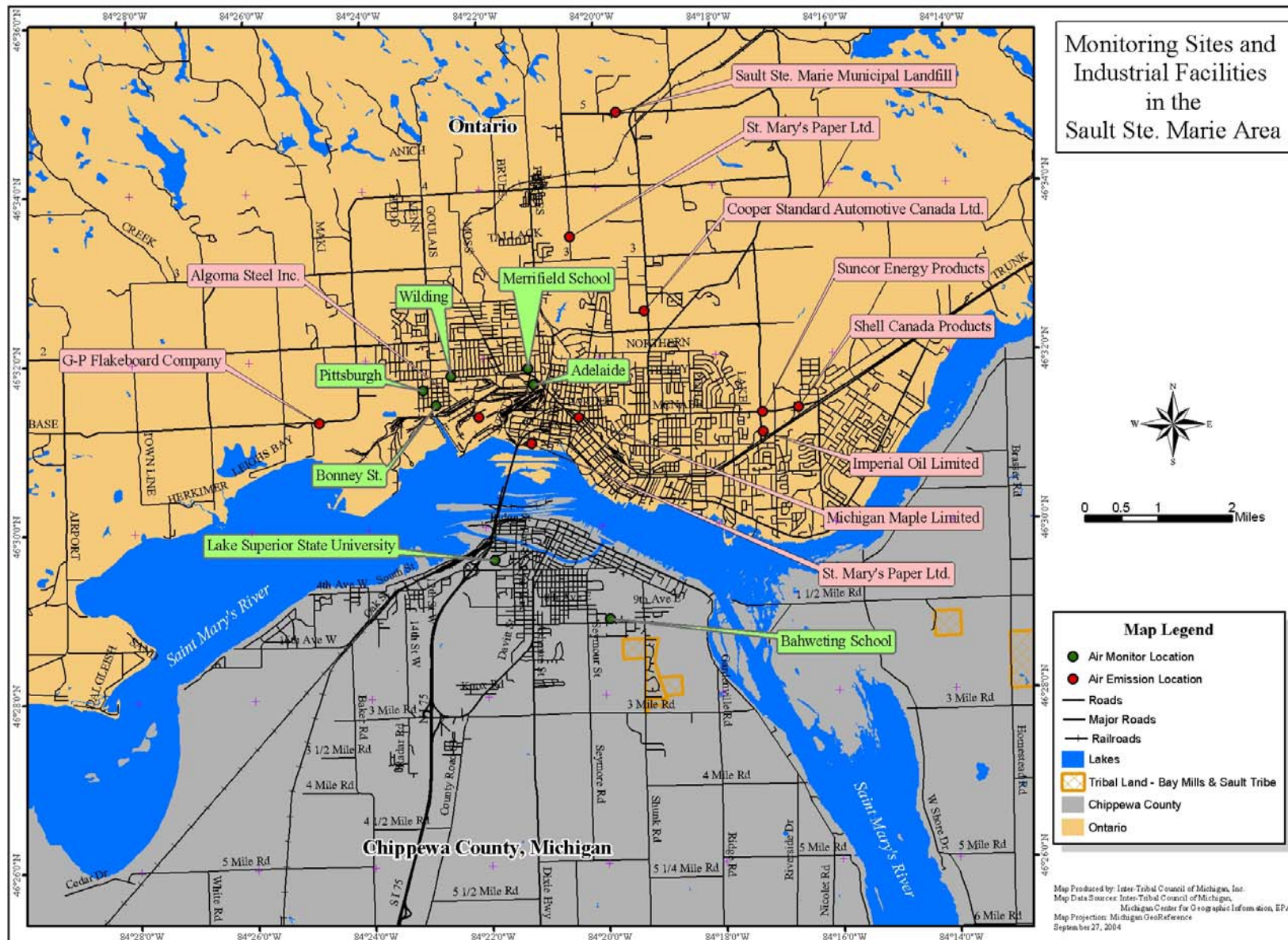


Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc.
A Consortium of Michigan's Federally Recognized Tribes



Department of
Environmental Quality

Sault Ste. Marie binational area



A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, featuring a dark brown branch with several leaves. The leaves are elongated and have a mottled pattern of brown and green, suggesting autumn foliage. The branch extends vertically from the bottom left towards the top left.

Algoma Consultation group

- Formed in response to MI Tribal community complaints about visible emissions from Algoma Steel in Ontario
- Canada-U.S. cooperation began in 1998 to address potential trans-boundary pollution
- Partners meet regularly to discuss monitoring results and progress in reducing emissions as per Environmental Management Agreement (EMA) between EC, MOE, and Algoma Steel

2001-2003 monitoring report

- Executive summary and full technical report available on EPA-R5 website:

<http://www.epa.gov/region5/air/>

Current Air Information

- [Today's Cities With Action Days](#)
- [Air Quality Where You Live](#)
- [The Plain English Guide To The Clean Air Act](#)
- [What You Can Do To Clear The Air](#)
- Initial findings for the transboundary air quality study in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.
 - [Executive Summary](#) (3 pp, 25K, About PDF)
 - [Informal Consultation on Local Air Issues in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario-Michigan under the Canada-United States Air Quality Agreement: Technical Support Document on Air Quality 2001-2003](#) (101 pp, 800K, About PDF)



2001-2003 monitoring report

- Major findings of the report found that over the 2001 to 2003 study period:
 - No exceedences of Canadian or US standards at monitoring sites in Michigan
 - Ontario air quality criteria in the west end of Sault Ste. Marie were exceeded for BaP and acrylonitrile
 - Non-enforceable U.S. health “benchmarks” were exceeded in the binational area for benzene and carbon tetrachloride (typical in urban areas) and in Ontario for manganese, BaP, and some VOCs.
 - The Air Quality Index in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario described air quality as being good to very good 93% of the time over this period



Recent progress, monitoring

- In January 2007, Intertribal Council installed a camera, facing toward Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, as part of the Midwest Hazecam network.
- See: www.mwhazecam.net/
- Tribal staff report that events on a par with the previous “red haze” event have not recurred
- However, less severe instances of particle clouds continue to be observed regularly

Example of recent particle plume, view from Inter-Tribal hazecam





Recent progress, emissions

- MOE-Ontario believes that the particle clouds observed in 2007 photos are emitted by blast furnace #7 at Algoma
- Algoma has committed to install a particulate-controlling baghouse on blast furnace #7 by December 31, 2008
- MOE also confirms that the steel plant will increase production in 2008, which will require the restart of a currently idle section of the facility. The equipment to be put back on-line will also be equipped with a baghouse control device.



Conclusions

- The binational consultation group agreed to quarterly phone calls to track progress in emissions reductions through the end of 2008
- U.S. partners are encouraged and very pleased by recent progress to control emissions at Algoma