

SOUTH CAROLINA PORTS AUTHORITY



**SOUTH
CAROLINA
PORTS**

Continuous Air Monitoring Station for the
Wando Welch Terminal

Q2 2020 Quarterly Report

April 2021

**SOUTH CAROLINA PORTS
AUTHORITY –
CONTINUOUS AIR
MONITORING STATION
FOR THE WANDO WELCH
TERMINAL**

Q2 2020 Quarterly Report

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Arcadis was contracted in late December 2010 to provide continuous air monitoring services to the South Carolina Ports Authority (SCPA) at the Wando Welch Terminal in Mt. Pleasant, SC. Arcadis has followed through on the planned schedule and activities since that award. The major accomplishments were to complete the Quality Assurance Plan (QAP), purchase the instruments, complete the site setup, and then to begin acquiring data. This report is the 37th quarterly data report (first quarterly report in year ten of operations) and presents the data summaries requested by SCPA and described in the scope of work. The data acquisition was started on May 6, 2011 in line with the court mandated start date. This report encompasses a period corresponding to data taken during the period from April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020.

The WWT air monitoring station has been in operation since May of 2011. Over that period, the station has provided air quality data to SCPA and its neighbors and has exceeded its data completeness targets. This report represents the last quarterly report for the WWT air monitoring station. The station will be relocated in early 2021 to SCPA's new Hugh K. Leatherman Terminal (HLT) in North Charleston. Air quality data collection is expected to start at HLT in March 2021.

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

SCPA requested a system to provide ambient air quality data including particulate matter less than 2.5 microns (PM_{2.5}), SO₂, and NO₂ for a period of 5 years at the Wando Welch Terminal of the port of Charleston. Arcadis maintains the monitoring instruments, stocks consumables such as filters and calibration gases, and orders spare parts such that downtime will be minimized. Arcadis has established standard operating procedures to perform daily downloads and to provide Level 1 data validation for the resulting data. The air monitoring project has proven to be reliable and is generating valid high-quality data suitable for use in dispersion modeling or other potential purposes.

The QAP is updated periodically to reflect improvements to the basic operating procedures or to document changes in the air quality standards. An update was performed on September 20, 2012, following the annual maintenance program and an on-site audit by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (conducted June 14-15, 2012) to reflect actual procedures at the end of the first year of operation. An update was also performed on October 17, 2013, to reflect changes to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for PM_{2.5}. This QAP is written consistent with the current ambient air quality standards for PM, NO_x and SO₂ as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The location selected for sampling and the sampling equipment has proven to be well-suited for the project as it is centrally located to the port activities and is influenced by local sources and meteorological conditions. Although this is not a typical fence line site, it has proven to be well suited for the evaluation of port activities and related air quality effects. Arcadis has been able to remotely access the control computer and reliably interact with the instruments. The instruments are very responsive to events such as container handling equipment and the morning openings of the front gates to entering truck traffic. These patterns can be reviewed in the archived data any time in the future.

2.1 Quarterly Results

The 24-hr daily averages for PM_{2.5}, NO, NO₂, NO_x, and SO₂ and the maximum daily values for NO₂ (1-hr average) and SO₂ (1-hr and 3-hr average) for this period are shown in Table 2-1. Quarterly statistics showing averages, minimums and maximums for all parameters are summarized in Table 2-2, with the corresponding NAAQS limits shown in Table 2-3. 24-hr averages for all constituents are also shown graphically in Figure 2-1. Maximum 1-hr averages for NO₂ and SO₂ are shown in Figure 2-2. Statistics are broken down by months and summarized in Table 2-4.

Table 2-1. 24-Hour Averages and Daily Maximums

Date	24-hour Averages					Daily Max 1-hr Avg.		Daily Max 3-hr Avg.
	PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³)	NO (ppb)	NO ₂ (ppb)	NO _x (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)	NO ₂ (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)
4/1/20	11.74	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/2/20	5.82	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/3/20	6.70	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/4/20	11.51	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/5/20	9.29	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/6/20	11.00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/7/20	7.32	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/8/20	12.48	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/9/20	17.60	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/10/20	10.25	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/11/20	6.31	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/12/20	3.65	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/13/20	11.06	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/14/20	11.24	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/15/20	15.03	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/16/20	9.27	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/17/20	5.49	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/18/20	12.29	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/19/20	6.30	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/20/20	8.89	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/21/20	15.21	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/22/20	11.35	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/23/20	4.83	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/24/20	6.87	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/25/20	6.02	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/26/20	18.12	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/27/20	9.71	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/28/20	∧	∧	∧	∧	∧	∧	∧	∧
4/29/20	6.57	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
4/30/20	9.71	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/1/20	6.42	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/2/20	5.13	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

24-hour Averages						Daily Max 1-hr Avg.		Daily Max 3-hr Avg.
Date	PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³)	NO (ppb)	NO ₂ (ppb)	NO _x (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)	NO ₂ (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)
5/3/20	11.64	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/4/20	11.77	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/5/20	13.10	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/6/20	16.44	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/7/20	7.33	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/8/20	8.27	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/9/20	12.29	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/10/20	9.41	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/11/20	13.18	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/12/20	4.82	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/13/20	6.00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/14/20	2.22	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/15/20	7.58	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/16/20	7.00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/17/20	3.13	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/18/20	8.00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/19/20	7.70	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/20/20	5.05	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/21/20	8.29	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/22/20	10.46	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/23/20	6.00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/24/20	11.54	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/25/20	6.10	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/26/20	6.69	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/27/20	3.86	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/28/20	7.79	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/29/20	9.14	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/30/20	9.15	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/31/20	10.06	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/1/20	7.39	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/2/20	10.00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/3/20	5.46	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/4/20	8.50	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

24-hour Averages						Daily Max 1-hr Avg.		Daily Max 3-hr Avg.
Date	PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³)	NO (ppb)	NO ₂ (ppb)	NO _x (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)	NO ₂ (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)
6/5/20	9.11	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/6/20	7.52	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/7/20	5.55	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/8/20	3.88	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/9/20	9.33	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/10/20	5.93	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/11/20	5.76	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/12/20	7.62	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/13/20	11.75	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/14/20	4.23	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/15/20	4.82	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/16/20	3.47	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/17/20	4.50	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/18/20	5.44	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/19/20	6.07	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/20/20	9.54	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/21/20	8.39	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/22/20	11.84	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/23/20	7.33	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/24/20	5.83	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/25/20	9.76	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/26/20	15.47	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/27/20	50.26	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/28/20	14.97	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/29/20	10.66	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/30/20	12.72	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

* 1160 zero-air generator failure.

^ data acquisition error.

Table 2-2. Quarterly Statistics

Date	24-hour Averages					Daily Max 1-hr Avg.		Daily Max 3-hr Avg.
	PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³)	NO (ppb)	NO ₂ (ppb)	NO _x (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)	NO ₂ (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)
Average	9.11	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Minimum	2.22	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Maximum	50.26	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

* 1160 zero-air generator failure.

Table 2-3. National Ambient Air Quality Standards

Pollutant	Primary/Secondary	Averaging Time	Level	Form
NO ₂	Primary	1-hour	100 ppb	98th Percentile, averaged over 3 years
	Primary and Secondary	Annual	53 ppb ⁽¹⁾	Annual Mean
SO ₂	Primary	1-hour	75 ppb ⁽²⁾	99th Percentile of 1-hour daily maximum concentrations, averaged over 3 years
	Secondary	3-hour	0.5 ppm	Not to be exceeded more than once per year
PM _{2.5}	Primary	Annual	12 µg/m ³	Annual mean, averaged over 3 years
	Secondary	Annual	15 µg/m ³	Annual mean, averaged over 3 years
	Primary and Secondary	24-hour	35 µg/m ³	98th Percentile, averaged over 3 years

- (1) The official level of the annual NO₂ standard is 0.053 ppm, equal to 53 ppb, shown here for the purpose of clearer comparison to the 1-hour standard.
- (2) Final rule signed June 2, 2010. The 1971 annual and 24-hour SO₂ standards were revoked in that same rulemaking. However, these standards remain in effect until one year after an area is designated for the 2010 standard, except in areas designated nonattainment for the 1971 standards, where the 1971 standards remain in effect until implementation plans to attain or maintain the 2010 standard are approved.

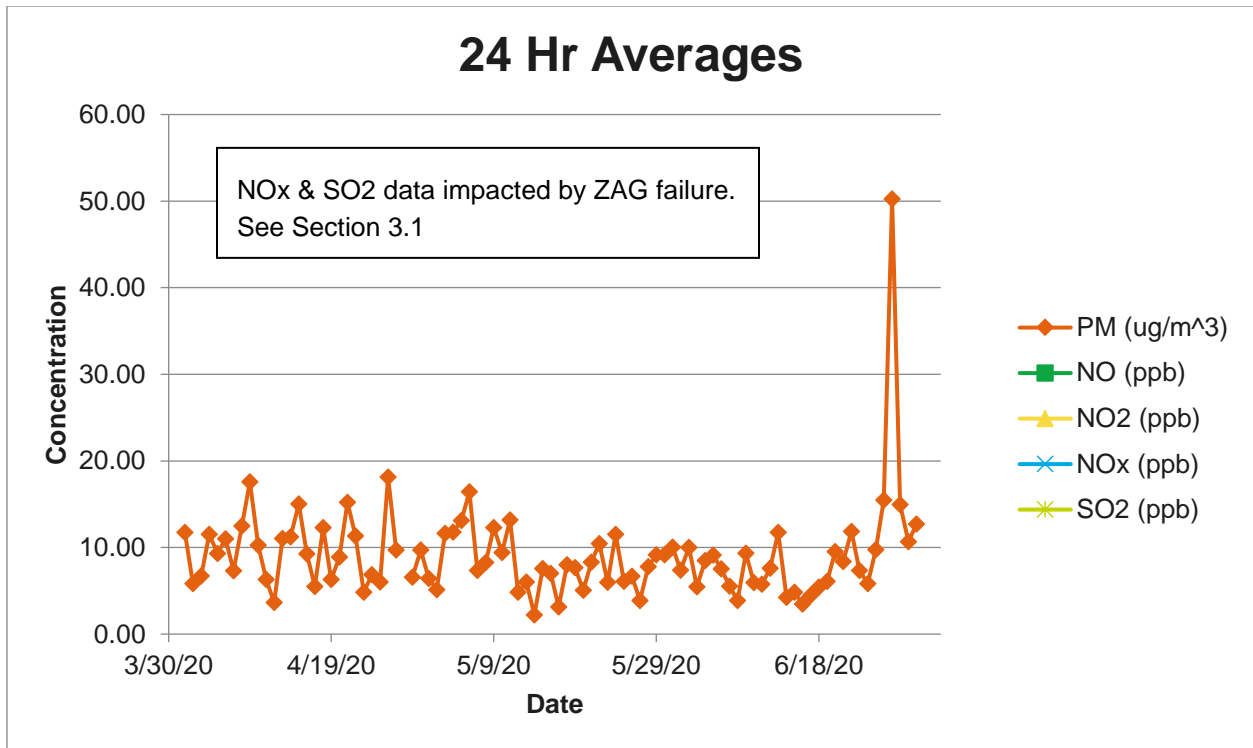


Figure 2-1. 24-hour Averages

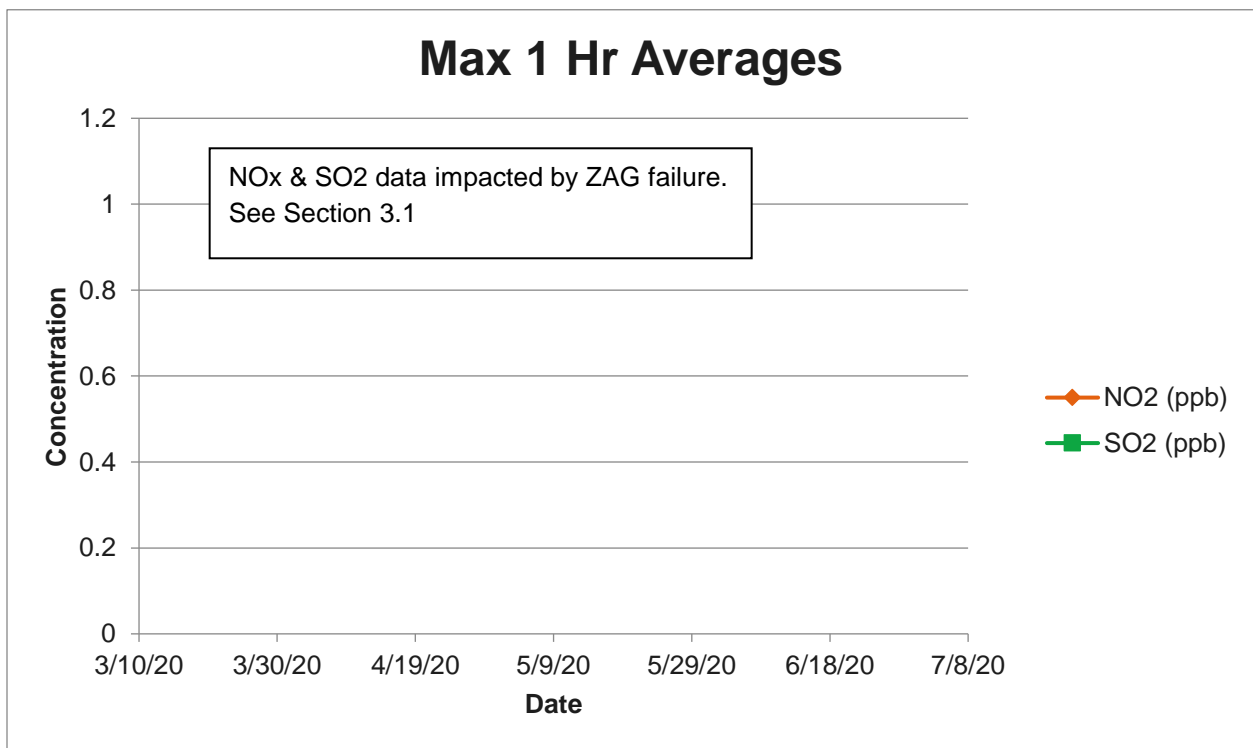


Figure 2-2. Max 1-hour Averages

Table 2-4. Monthly Statistics

Month	Monthly Averages					Monthly Daily Max 1-hr Avg.		Daily Max 3-hr Avg.
	PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³)	NO (ppb)	NO ₂ (ppb)	NO _x (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)	NO ₂ (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)	SO ₂ (ppb)
4/20	9.71	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
5/20	8.24	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6/20	9.44	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

* 1160 zero-air generator failure.

3 QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL

QA/QC procedures applied to this project are described in a Quality Assurance Plan titled Continuous Air Monitoring Station for the Wando Welch Terminal (October 17, 2013, Revision 3).

3.1 Daily and Quarterly QC/Validation

According to the QAP prepared for this work, results are reviewed for anomalies and validated daily. These validations are recorded on QA/QC Daily Comment Sheets. The occurrence and duration of normal calibration and maintenance activities are also recorded.

Daily QC checks were performed in accordance with section 5.1 of the QAPP. The PAC Display data logging software is remotely accessed from the ARCADIS office in Durham, NC where the instrumentation is monitored for alarms and the data trends are reviewed for irregularities. NO_x and SO₂ zero and calibration values displayed on the PAC Display screen from the previous calibration event are recorded in the QC Log Book. After checking the PAC Display system for any anomalies, the H05 raw data file from the previous day is downloaded to Arcadis' Durham, NC server. The data file is saved to the project folder on the server and then processed by a Microsoft Excel macro. The resulting Excel file provides values for daily averages and maxima as well as alarm and calibration information. This information is recorded on the daily QC log sheet. Comments and observations regarding data quality are noted on the QC log sheet and are also entered on the SCSQA QA/QC Daily Comment Sheet. The Project Manager is notified of any issues immediately.

Percent completeness for Quarter 2 was calculated by dividing both the number of hours flagged by the macro as "Insufficient Data" as well as hours for which no data was obtained by the total number of hours in the quarter. Each of the three instruments (5014i, 42i, and 43i) typically produces 24 hours of data each day, for a total of 72 hours per day of recorded data. One daily Excel file per week was validated by verifying the formulas and inputs used in the Microsoft Excel macro calculations are correct. The ranges used to calculate the PM 2.5 24-hour average, NO₂ Daily Max 1-hour average, SO₂ Daily Max 1-hour average, and the 24-hour averages for PM, NO, NO₂, NO_x, and SO₂ were checked during each validation. Four random hourly average ranges for PM, NO, NO₂, NO_x, and SO₂ were also checked during each validation.

The data for this quarter were assessed as follows:

- Percent completeness was 32.43%.
- 100% of the validated data were flagged as "good".

The QAP stated a completeness goal of 75% for PM_{2.5}, SO₂ and NO_x. The data collected from April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020 fell short of this goal, resulting from a continuation of instrumentation issues beginning in Quarter 1 2020. SO₂ data was impacted beginning on February 10, 2020 due to a flash intensity assembly failure in the SO₂ instrument. On February 25, 2020, the zero-air generator (ZAG) failed, impacting both NO_x and SO₂ data quality. According to the manufacturer, ThermoFisher Scientific, the instrument was not repairable, and a new ZAG was ordered. Delivery of the new ZAG was delayed multiple times due to COVID-19 pandemic supply chain problems.

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