



AIR QUALITY FIELD STUDY FACT SHEET

Cirrus and stratus clouds over a field.

This fact sheet provides information about VIA HFR's air quality study program. It tells you how to get answers to your questions and give us your comments. Your insights will help shape the program.

What is an air quality study?

An air quality study focuses on monitoring contaminants that might affect the air. This study will help HFR planners protect air quality while building and operating the new railway.

Key terms

Air quality

The degree to which the air in a particular place is pollutant-free.

Air contaminant

Any chemical, physical or biological agent that modifies the natural characteristics of the air.

Sensitive receptor

Areas where occupants may be more sensitive to air pollutants, such as hospitals, schools, daycare facilities and elderly housing.

Air-dispersion modelling

The method of predicting ground-level concentration resulting from sources of air contaminants.

Why study air quality?

Air quality can affect human and environmental health. By recording the air quality in a particular area, HFR planners will better understand how the air might change while building and operating the new railway and what is needed to protect the air.



Cirrus, stratus and cumulus clouds.



What do air quality studies involve?

Air quality studies involve:



Establishing present conditions: using a monitoring device, we measure what the air contains in a specific area in its current state.



Identifying and describing the features of air.



Studying how air may change when building and operating the new railway.



Developing measures to avoid or reduce potential negative effects.



Summa canister, for collecting air samples.

When do air quality studies occur?

In 2024, we are continuing to conduct air quality studies from April to September 2024. These studies will help determine the monitoring devices we will need, and where we might need to install them to collect data.

Study Type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Air Quality												



Where are air quality studies taking place?

The 2024 air quality studies will take place along sections of existing railway routes in Ontario, from Twin Elm up to Ottawa and down to Vars, and in Québec near Laval to the 740 highway in Québec City.



Where can I learn more about HFR?

If you're interested in getting more information, or if you have a question or comment, please visit www.hfr-tgf.ca. You may also contact the HFR Team via email at: questions@hfr-tgf.ca

For more information on Canada's impact-assessment process, visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency.html>