

Bulletin Update #3

April 10, 2024

The NRCB has received numerous complaints regarding odours in High River over the past 24 months. This bulletin has been created to help answer the most frequent questions that the NRCB receives about this file and to summarize the NRCB's actions to date. The NRCB continues to work closely with the people of High River and with Rimrock Feeders to monitor the odours, collect air quality data, and to look for correlations between odour emissions and feedlot management practices during complaint events.

NRCB actions since fall 2023 update

NRCB inspectors and science and technology staff have continued to conduct regular site visits to the Rimrock feedlot and the Town of High River to follow up on odour complaints and to conduct ongoing air monitoring work. Some of these inspections occurred at all times of the day and night (including many visits that were not announced to the operators or the public) to monitor odours and speak to residents.

- The NRCB has made all monitoring data collected from within the municipal boundary of High River available on its website. This includes May through September of 2023.
- Since September 2023, the NRCB has performed interior and fenceline monitoring of the Rimrock site to better understand emissions intensities from the location.
 - This monitoring was the start of a broader objective of characterizing odour emissions of all odour sources in the vicinity of the Rimrock site.
- During the winter, the NRCB encountered unanticipated challenges with its air monitoring equipment, resulting in significant delays to this work. These challenges have been resolved.
- In mid-April 2024, the NRCB will resume the work of characterizing odour sources, starting at Rimrock and expanding to other odour sources throughout the spring and summer.
- The NRCB also will be installing a third Scentroid CTair odour monitor unit and new weather station on the western boundary of High River in mid-April, which will be maintained at that location and serve as a community station.
- All data collected from the community station will be published on the NRCB website on a monthly basis, starting with posting the April data sometime in May 2024.
- The source characterization work, which will compare emissions from Rimrock to other regional sources, will be published on the NRCB website by late summer or fall of 2024.

Rimrock/Tidewater Renewables

The NRCB has no regulatory authority over the approved biodigester facility. Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPA) issued an approval for the biodigester facility on December 11, 2023. Any questions on the EPA regulatory process or the status of that approval should be directed to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas.