Appendix H

Recommendations for Estimating Concentrations of Longer Averaging Periods from the Maximum One-Hour Concentration for Screening Purposes

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A. Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) SCREEN3 air dispersion model is frequently used to estimate the maximum one-hour concentration downwind due to emissions from a point source to assess impacts from a source. The SCREEN3 model results (or ISCST3 with screening meteorological data), in conjunction with the U.S. EPA screening factors, are frequently used to estimate concentrations for longer averaging periods, such as the maximum annual average concentration. In addition, it is permissible to use the ISCST3 air dispersion model in a screening mode with identical meteorological conditions as used in the SCREEN3 model to superimpose results from multiple sources.

This method to assess short-term and long-term impacts may be used as a first-level screening indicator to determine if a more refined analysis is necessary. In the event that representative meteorological data are not available, the screening assessment may be the only computer modeling method available to assess source impacts.

In California, this standard procedure will generally bias concentrations towards overprediction in most cases when the source is a continuous release. However, in the case when a source is not continuous, these screening factors may not be biased towards overprediction. In this case, we recommend an alternative procedure for estimating screening value concentrations for longer averaging periods than one-hour for intermittent releases.

B. Current Procedures

The current screening factors used to estimate longer term averages (i.e., 3-hour, 8-hour, 24-hour, 30-day, and annual averages) from maximum one-hour concentrations in California are shown in Table H.1 and Figure H.1. The factors are U.S. EPA recommended values with the exception of the 30-day factor. The 30-day factor is an ARB recommended value (ARB, 1994). The maximum and minimum values are recommended limits to which one may diverge from the general (Rec.) case, (U.S. EPA, 1992). Diverging from the general case should only be done on a case by case basis with prior approval from the reviewing agency.

C. Non-Standard Averaging Periods with a Continuous Release

The following is the ARB recommendation for estimating screening concentrations for non-standard averaging periods that are not listed in Table H.1 or Figure H.1. Specifically, the recommendation is for estimating screening concentrations for 4-hour, 6-hour, and 7-hour averaging periods.

The current U.S. EPA screening factors applicable to standard averaging periods should be used for non-standard averaging periods. Specifically for the 4-hour, 6-hour, and 7-hour averaging periods, we recommend that the 3-hour screening factor of (0.9± 0.1) be used. The following illustrates the method to estimate a 6-hour average concentration from a continuous release from a single point source:

1. determine the maximum 1-hour concentration according to standard screening procedures ($C_{max1\text{-}hr}$),
2. scale the maximum 1-hour concentration by (0.9±0.1), and
3. the result is the maximum 6-hour concentration ($C_{max6\text{-}hr}=C_{max1\text{-}hr} *(0.9\pm0.1)$).

In the case for the 6-hour and 7-hour average concentration estimates, the user may wish to take the lower bound of (0.9±0.1), or 0.8. For the 4-hour average estimate, we recommend the user to use the 3-hour factor as is, 0.9.

Figure H.1
Screening Factors to Convert
1-hr Max. to Longer Avg. Periods

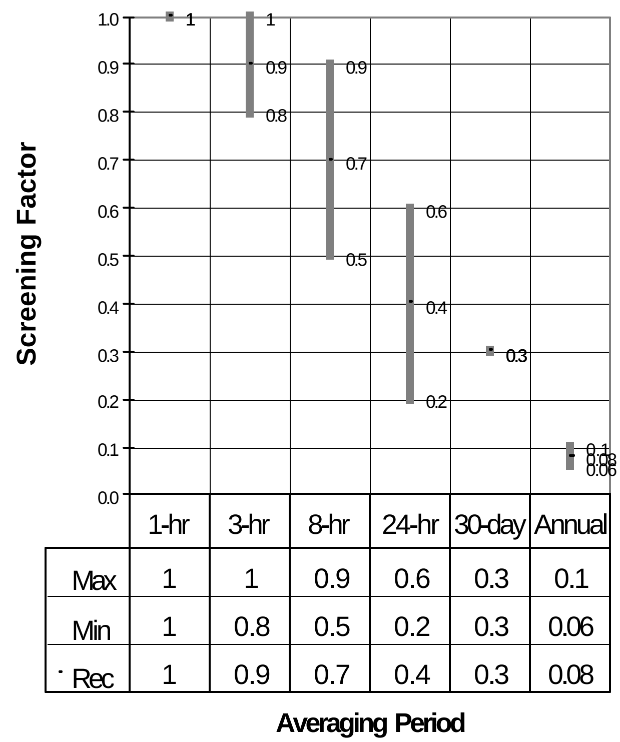


Table H.1 Recommended Factors to Convert Maximum 1-hour Avg. Concentrations to Other Averaging Periods (U.S. EPA, 1992; ARB, 1994).

Averaging Time	Range	Typical Recommended
3 hours	0.8 - 1.0	0.9
8 hours	0.5 - 0.9	0.7
24 hours	0.2 - 0.6	0.4
30 days	0.2 - 0.3	0.3
Annual	0.06 - 0.1	0.08

Table H.2 summarizes these recommendations for the non-standard averaging periods.

Table H.2 Recommended Factors to Convert Maximum 1-hour Avg. Concentrations to Non-Standard Averaging Periods.

Averaging Time	Range	Typical Recommended
4 hours	0.8 - 1.0	0.9
6 hours	0.8 – 1.0	0.8
7 hours	0.8 – 1.0	0.8

D. Definitions

It is convenient to define the following terms relating to sources with respect to the duration of the release.

- Continuous Release – this is a release that is continuous over the duration of a year. An example of this type of release would be fugitive emissions from a 24-hour per day, 7-day per week operation or an operation that is nearly continuous.

- Intermittent Release – many emissions fall under this category. These are emission types that are not continuous over the year. Any operation that has normal business hours (e.g., 8 am to 6 pm) would fall into this category.

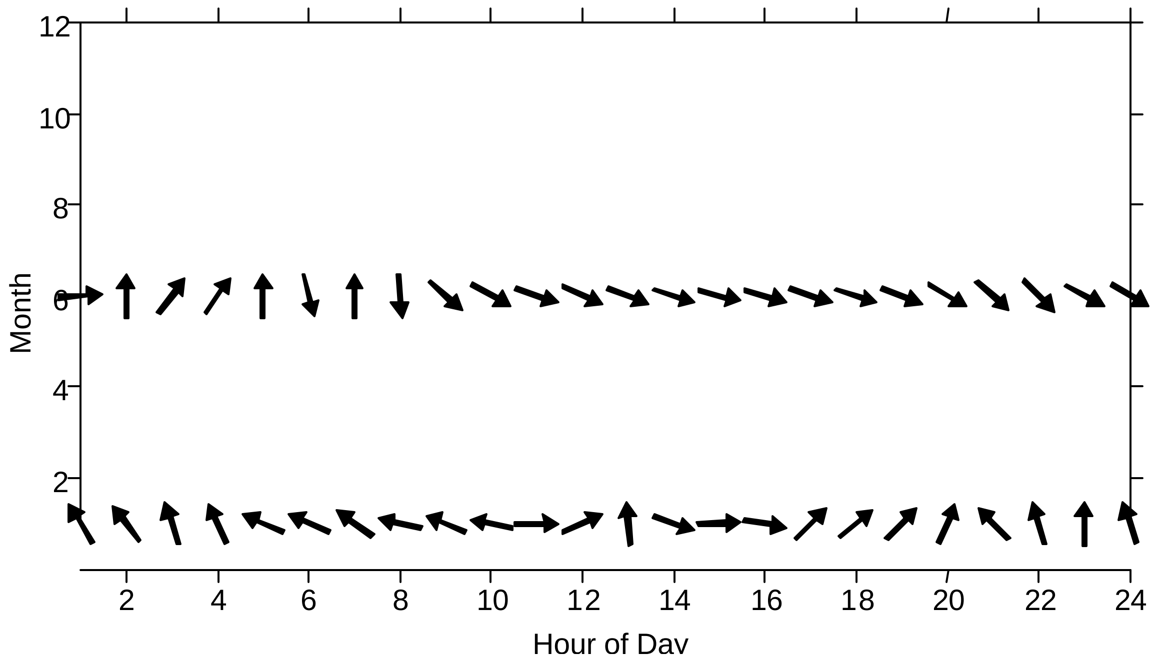
- Systematic Release – these are intermittent releases that occur at a specific time of the day. As an example, these type of releases can occur when a process requires clean out at the end of the work day. Thereby releasing emissions only at the end of the workday systematically. Systematic releases are similar to intermittent releases with a shorter duration during the normal operating schedule.

- Random Release – these are intermittent releases that can occur any time during the operating schedule. An example of this type of release would be of the type that depends on batch processing. For example, a brake shop may emit pollutants only when the brakes are cleaned which happens randomly throughout the normal business hours.

E. Screening Factors

The U.S. EPA screening factors, as shown in Table H.1, compensate for the effects of varying conditions of wind speed, wind direction, ambient temperature, atmospheric stability, and mixing height over longer averaging periods, even though it is not explicitly indicated in the U.S. EPA Guidance (U.S. EPA, 1992). Figure H.2 shows the variability in wind direction over a 24-hour period. The data are averaged for two seven-day periods from data collected at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). Figure H.2 was compiled for data collected in 1989 for January 1 to January 7 and June1 through June 7, 1989. The ordinate in Figure H.2 shows the months of the year. Only two months are plotted. The abscissa shows the hour of the day.

Figure H.2
Hourly Wind Direction - Los Angeles
January (bottom – 1) and June (top - 6)



As seen in Figure H.2, the wind direction changes throughout all hours of the day. In addition, the wind direction for LAX, in the overnight and early morning hours, can vary from January to June. During the afternoon hours of 1400 – 1600, the wind direction is similar in both months of January and June.

The standard U.S. EPA screening factor to estimate the maximum 24-hour concentration from the maximum 1-hour concentration is 0.4, as seen in Table H.1. Figure H.2 shows that for 15 of 24 hours the wind blows from the west-northwest during June. A 24-hour screening factor could be 0.6 (0.6 ≈ 15hrs/24hrs) based on wind direction alone. This is consistent with the upper bound of the adjustment factors shown in Table H.1. Including the variability for wind speed, ambient temperature, and atmospheric stability could further reduce the estimated scaling factor of 0.6 closer towards the U.S. EPA recommended value of 0.4.

F. Intermittent Release

Support for the U.S. EPA screening factor is demonstrated for a continuous release (i.e., 24 hours per day) in the description above. It is important to be cautious when applying the U.S. EPA screening factors to an intermittent source for the purposes of estimating an annual average concentration (e.g., a business that may only emit during normal operating hours of 8 am to 6 pm).

Intermittent emissions, such as those from burning barrels, testing a standby diesel generator, or any normal business hour operation (e.g., 8am to 6pm Monday through Friday), could have the effect of eliminating some of the annual variability of meteorological conditions. For example, emissions only during the daytime could eliminate the variability of a drainage flow pattern in mountainous terrain. Guidance for estimating long-term averages for a screening approach and intermittent emissions is not available.

For a source located in the LAX meteorological domain, an emission pattern confined to the hours of 1400 to 1600 would eliminate any variability associated with the wind direction. In this case, estimating a 24-hour average with the U.S. EPA scaling factor of 0.4 would be incorrect.

In the event the emissions are intermittent but randomly distributed throughout the day, the scaling factor of 0.4 may be appropriate because the natural diurnal variability of meteorological conditions are concurrent with emissions. An additional pro-rating of the concentration, when estimating a 24-hour concentration, would be required to discount due to the intermittent nature of the emissions.

We recommend the following steps to estimate a screening based estimate of annual average concentrations from intermittent emissions.

1. Estimate the maximum one-hour concentration ($c_{1\text{-hr}}$) based on the SCREEN3 model approach (or similar, e.g., ISCST3 with screening meteorological data) for possible meteorological conditions consistent with the operating conditions and the actual hourly emission rate. It is acceptable to estimate downwind concentrations using all meteorological combinations available to SCREEN3. However, it is possible to be selective for the choices of meteorological conditions and still be conservative. For example, daytime only emissions need not be evaluated for nighttime stable atmospheric conditions (Pasquill-Gifford classes A through D are unstable and neutral atmospheric conditions applicable during the day. Classes D through F are neutral and stable atmospheric conditions applicable during the night.)

2. Estimate the concentration for the longest averaging period applicable based on the length of time of the systematic or randomly distributed emissions and the factors in Table H.1. For example, the longest averaging period concentration that may be estimated with the U.S. EPA scaling factors is an 8-hour concentration ($c_{8\text{-hr}}$) for emissions that are systematically released for 12 hours. Scaling factors between 8-hours and 12-hours are not available. In the case of the 8-hour concentration, the U.S. EPA screening factor of 0.7 ± 0.2 to estimate the maximum 8-hour concentration is appropriate.

   The U.S. EPA Screening Guidance allows for deviation from the suggested conversion factor on a case-by-case basis. We recommend the lower end of the range for the conversion factor (i.e., 0.5 for the 8-hour average) when estimating an annual average concentration. This is because variability associated with seasonal differences in wind speed, wind direction, and atmospheric stability would not be addressed otherwise. As seen in Figure H.2, there are seasonal differences in the wind direction.

For example, if X is the length of time of systematic or randomly distributed emissions, the following scalars can apply.

- $X \leq 2$ hrs; Scalar = 1.0 to estimate a 1-hour average
- 3 hrs $\leq X \leq$ 7 hrs; Scalar = 0.8 to estimate a 3-hour average
- 8 hrs $\leq X \leq$ 20 hrs; Scalar = 0.5 to estimate an 8-hour average (the selection of 20 hours is arbitrary)
- 21 hrs $\leq X \leq$ 24 hrs; this may be a continuous release, use standard screening procedures.

3. Estimate the annual average concentration (c_{annual}) by assuming the longer averaging period estimated above is persistent for the entire year. In the above example the 8-hour concentration is assumed to be persistent for an entire year to estimate an annual average concentration (i.e., the annual average concentration is assumed to be equal to the 8-hour concentration).

   In addition, the annual average concentration should be pro-rated over the final averaging period based on the pro-rated emissions (i.e., the calculation should include the fact that for some hours over the year, the emission rate is zero).

   For example, if Y is the number of operating hours in the year (e.g., Y = X * 365), the following may apply.
   $(c_{annual}) = (c_{1\text{-}hr})$ (Scalar) (Y/8760hrs/yr)

4. The hourly emission rate should be calculated based on the assumed operating schedule in the steps above. An example for a facility operating Y hours per year follows.
   $(q_{hourly}) = (Q_{yearly})/(\text{Y hrs/yr})$

5. The annual average concentration (or ground level concentration GLC) can be estimated as follows.
   $GLC = (c_{annual})\ (q_{hourly})$
   $= (c_{1\text{-}hr})(\text{Scalar})\ (\text{Yhrs/8760hrs})\ (Q_{yearly})/(\text{Y hrs/yr})$
   $= (c_{1\text{-}hr})(\text{Scalar})\ (Q_{yearly})/(\text{8760 hrs/yr})$

Practically speaking, the above five steps condense down to determining three values. The first value is the maximum 1-hour concentration. The second value is the Scalar (either 1.0, 0.8, or 0.5). And the third value is the hourly emission rate estimated by uniformly distributed over the entire year (8760 hours). The operating hours per year drops out of the calculations for an annual average concentration provided the emissions are based on an annual inventory (See step 5).

In the event that the acute averaging period is required and the emissions are based on an annual inventory, then the annual operating hours are required.

Below are four examples using the steps as outlined above. In each case, the annual average concentration is the desired value for use in risk assessment calculations. A fifth example is also included to demonstrate the need for the operating hours per year for an acute analysis when the inventory is provided on an annual basis.

Example 1 - Fugitive Gasoline Station Emissions

Emissions are **continuous** for 24 hours per day and 365 days per year.

1. Estimate the maximum 1-hour concentration with the Screen3 model (or similar screening modeling approach), $c_{1\text{-hr}}$.

2. Estimate the annual average concentration, c_{annual}, with the U.S. EPA screening factor of 0.08.
   $(c_{annual}) = (c_{1\text{-hr}})(0.08)$

3. The hourly emission rate, q_{hourly}, for the annual average concentration is based on 24 hours per day and 365 days per year (8760 hours per year).
   $(q_{hourly}) = (Q_{yearly})/(8760 \text{ hrs/yr})$

4. The annual average concentration (or ground level concentration GLC) can be estimated as follows.
   $GLC = (c_{annual})\ (q_{hourly})$
   $GLC = (c_{1\text{-hr}})(0.08)\ (Q_{yearly})/(8760 \text{ hrs/yr})$

Example 2 - Dry Cleaner Emissions

Emissions are **intermittent** over the year but **systematic** for 10 hours per day, 5 days per week and 50 weeks per year.

1. Estimate the maximum 1-hour concentration with the Screen3 model (or similar screening modeling approach), $c_{1\text{-hr}}$.

2. Estimate the maximum 8-hour average concentration, $c_{8\text{-hr}}$, with the U.S. EPA screening factor of 0.7 ±0.2 as the longest averaging period of continuous release. The averaging period would need to be less than 10 hours. Use the lower range of the screening factor, 0.5, because the annual average is the final product and variability due to seasonal differences are not accounted for otherwise.
   $(c_{8\text{-hr}}) = (c_{1\text{-hr}})(0.5)$

3. Assume the worst-case 8-hour concentration is persistent throughout the year and pro-rate the concentration based on emissions over the year. For this dry cleaner, there are 2500 hours of operating condition emissions. Therefore the annual average is calculated as follows.
   $(c_{annual}) = (c_{8\text{-hr}})\ (2500\text{hrs}/8760\text{hrs})$
   $= (c_{1\text{-hr}})(0.5)\ (2500\text{hrs}/8760\text{hrs})$

4. The hourly emission rate, q_{hourly}, for the annual average concentration is based on 2500 hours per year.
   $(q_{hourly}) = (Q_{yearly})/(2500 \text{ hrs/yr})$

5. The annual average concentration (or ground level concentration GLC) can be estimated as follows.
   $GLC = (c_{annual}) (q_{hourly})$
   $= (c_{1\text{-}hr})(0.5) (2500hrs/8760hrs) (Q_{yearly})/(2500 hrs/yr)$
   $= (c_{1\text{-}hr})(0.5) (Q_{yearly})/(8760 hrs/yr)$

Example 3 - Burning Barrel Emissions

Emissions are **intermittent** over the year and **random** during daylight hours for two hours per burn, two burns per week, and 52 weeks per year.

1. Estimate the maximum 1-hour concentration with the Screen3 model (or similar screening modeling approach), $c_{1\text{-}hr}$. Meteorological combinations may be restricted to daytime conditions for this screening analysis. Pasquill-Gifford stability classes A, B, C, and D are unstable and neutral conditions for daytime conditions.

2. Estimate the maximum 8-hour average concentration, $c_{8\text{-}hr,}$ with the U.S. EPA screening factor of 0.7 ±0.2 as the longest averaging period where the emissions have the potential to be randomly distributed. Depending on the day of the year and latitude of the emissions, the daylight hours can vary. For this example, we assume the daylight hours can be as short as 10 hours per day to as long as 14 hours per day. Since the emissions are randomly distributed throughout the daylight hours, the longest averaging period we can scale with U.S. EPA scaling factors is a 10 hour average. In this case, the averaging period becomes the 8-hour average and the scaling factor becomes 0.7±0.2. Again since this is for an annual average, we use the lower end of the range, 0.5.
   $(c_{8\text{-}hr}) = (c_{1\text{-}hr})(0.5)$

3. Assume the worst-case 8-hour concentration is persistent throughout the year and pro-rate the concentration based on the emissions over the year. For the burning barrels there are 208 hours of operating condition emissions (208 hrs = (2hrs/burn)(2burns/wk)(52wk/yr)). Therefore the annual average concentration is calculated as follows.
   $(c_{annual}) = (c_{8\text{-}hr}) (208hrs/8760hrs)$
   $= (c_{1\text{-}hr})(0.5) (208hrs/8760hrs)$

4. The hourly emission rate, q_{hourly}, for the annual average concentration is based on 208 hours per year.
   $(q_{hourly}) = (Q_{yearly})/(208 hrs/yr)$

5. The annual average concentration (or ground level concentration GLC) can be estimated as follows.
   $GLC = (c_{annual}) (q_{hourly})$
   $= (c_{1\text{-}hr})(0.5) (208hrs/8760hrs) (Q_{yearly})/(208 hrs/yr)$
   $= (c_{1\text{-}hr})(0.5) (Q_{yearly})/(8760 hrs/yr)$

Example 4 - Standby Diesel Engine Testing

Emissions are **intermittent** over the year and **systematic** for two hours per week and 50 weeks per year. The engine testing is conducted at 2 pm on Fridays.

1. Estimate the maximum 1-hour concentration with the Screen3 model (or similar screening modeling approach), $c_{1\text{-hr}}$. Meteorological combinations may be restricted to daytime conditions in this screening analysis because the engine test is conducted at 2 pm. Pasquill-Gifford stability classes A, B, C, and D are unstable and neutral conditions for daytime conditions.

2. In this case, the emission schedule is systematically fixed over a two hour period. Therefore, the longest averaging period which is applicable for the U.S. EPA screening factors is one-hour because a two-hour conversion factor is not available. Therefore, we assume the maximum 1-hour concentration is persistent for the entire year. We still prorate the concentration based on the emissions. There are 100 hours of engine testing per year. Therefore the annual average concentration becomes.
   $(c_{annual}) = (c_{1\text{-hr}})\ (100hrs/8760hrs)$

3. The hourly emission rate, q_{hourly}, for the annual average concentration is based on 100 hours per year.
   $(q_{hourly}) = (Q_{yearly})/(100\ hrs/yr)$

4. The annual average concentration (or ground level concentration GLC) can be estimated as follows.
   $GLC = (c_{annual})\ (q_{hourly})$
   $= (c_{1\text{-hr}})\ (100hrs/8760hrs)\ (Q_{yearly})/(100\ hrs/yr)$
   $= (c_{1\text{-hr}})\ (Q_{yearly})/(8760\ hrs/yr)$

Below is an example using the steps above to estimate an acute concentration longer than a 1-hour averaging period. This case is similar to Example 3 above with the exception of the averaging period.

Example 5 - Burning Barrel Emissions – Acute REL

Emissions are **intermittent** over the year and **random** during daylight hours for two **continuous** hours per burn, two burns per week, and 52 weeks per year. The arsenic acute REL is for a 4-hour averaging period. The steps below are used to estimate the acute concentration, 4-hour REL, for arsenic.

1. Estimate the maximum 1-hour concentration with the Screen3 model (or similar screening modeling approach), $c_{1\text{-hr}}$. Meteorological combinations may be restricted to daytime conditions for this screening analysis. Pasquill-Gifford stability classes A, B, C, and D are unstable and neutral conditions for daytime conditions.

2. The maximum 1-hour concentration is used as is without screening adjustment factors listed in Tables H.1 or H.2. The emissions are **continuous** through a 2-hour event within a 4-hour window. The adjustments in Table H.2 would only be used if the

emissions were continuous for a 4-hour event or **randomly** distributed through a 4-hour event.

3. Assume the worst-case 1-hour concentration is persistent for the 4-hour averaging period and pro-rate the concentration based on the emissions over the 4-hour window. For the burning barrels there are 2 hours of operating condition emissions (2hrs/burn). Therefore the 4-hour average concentration is calculated as follows.
   $(c_{4\text{-hr}}) = (c_{1\text{-hr}})$ (2hrs/4hrs)

4. The hourly emission rate, q_{hourly}, for the annual average concentration is based on 208 hours per year (208 hrs = (2hrs/burn)(2burns/wk)(52wk/yr)).
   $(q_{hourly}) = (Q_{yearly})/(208 \text{ hrs/yr})$

5. The 4-hr average concentration (or ground level concentration $GLC_{4\text{-hr}}$) can be estimated as follows.
   $GLC_{4\text{-hr}} = (c_{4\text{-hr}})(q_{hourly})$
   $= (c_{1\text{-hr}})(2\text{hrs}/4\text{hrs})\ (Q_{yearly})/(208 \text{ hrs/yr})$

   This step of Example 5 differs from the previous Examples because the number of operating hours per year does not drop out of the calculation as seen above.

The above methods were used in a recent modeling evaluation for emissions from a burning barrel (example 3 above) (ARB, 2002). Table H.3, below, shows results from the modeling evaluation. Shown in Table H.3 are the maximum annual average concentration based on the screening approach outlined above as well as a refined approach with site specific meteorological data from four locations, Alturas, Bishop, San Benito, and Escondido. As seen in Table H.3, the screening evaluation as described in the example overestimates the values calculated based on the refined analysis. This is the desired outcome of a screening approach.

Table H.3 Maximum Annual Average Concentration (χ/q) Above Ambient Conditions - Burning Barrel Emissions					
Met. City	**Alturas**	**Bishop**	**San Benito**	**Escondido**	***SCREENING***
D (m)	**(μg/m^3)/(g/s)**	**(μg/m^3)/(g/s)**	**(μg/m^3)/(g/s)**	**(μg/m^3)/(g/s)**	***(μg/m^3)/(g/s)***
20	44.	61.	85.	110.	*590.*
50	12.	16.	22.	30.	*230.*
100	4.	5.	7.	9.	*85.*

Notes: (a) Annual χ/q is based on 208 hours of emissions at 1 g/s.
(b) χ/q is the concentration in μg/m^3 based on an hourly emission rate of 1 g/s.

G. Implementation

The approach outlined above has been implemented in the HARP program. Appendix J provides example output files from the Hot Spot Analysis and Reporting Program (HARP). The HARP software has been developed by a contractor through consultation with OEHHA, Air Resources Board (ARB), and District representatives. The HARP software is the recommended model for calculating and presenting HRA results for the Hot Spots Program. Information on obtaining the HARP software can be found on the ARB's web site at www.arb.ca.gov. Note, since the HARP software is a tool that uses the methods specified in this document, the software will be available after these guidelines have undergone public and peer review, been endorsed by the state's Scientific Review Panel (SRP) on Toxic Air Contaminants, and adopted by OEHHA.

References

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