From: Matthew Lakin
To: Jared Blumenfeld
Cc: Teddy Ryerson; Meredith Kurpius; MichaelA Flagg; Deborah Jordan; Fletcher Clover; Katherine Hoag; Niloufar Glosson; Kerry Drake
Subject: Fw: Beijing publishes average PM2.5 levels for the first time|Environment|News|WantChinaTimes.com
Date: 11/09/2012 01:38 PM

Jared,

I've had three staff working on this, and unfortunately, the short answer is that summary statistics for the Beijing monitoring just aren't available. We can do only the simplest snapshots, for example:

Beijing
-24-hour average for 11/7 = 66.4 ug/m3
-24-hour average for 11/8 = 56.5 ug/m3

Bakersfield - California site (that's the only one with AirNow data)
-24-hour average for 11/7 = 27.3 ug/m3
-24-hour average for 11/8 = 14.1 ug/m3

But we know that Bakersfield is not yet at it's peak concentrations, and we have no real understanding how the Beijing concentrations vary. If you are interested, the most recent Bakersfield PM2.5 concentrations for 2009-2011 were 18 ug/m3 for annual average and 62 ug/m3 for the 24-hour "design value" (which compares to EPA's NAAQS of 35 ug/m3, and is the 98th percentile, i.e. the average of among the highest values for each year). Anecdotally, we see Beijing concentrations as generally higher than SJV, but we have no meaningful quantitative way to express that.

Moving forward we are going to pursue getting access to the State Department-collected data, but that will undoubtedly take a long time.
Sorry that we couldn't get you a more useful comparison.
Matt

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----- Forwarded by Matthew Lakin/R9/USEPA/US on 11/09/2012 10:31 AM -----

From: Jared Blumenfeld <jaredblumenfeld@comcast.net>
To: Matthew Lakin/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,
Cc: Teddy Ryerson/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 11/08/2012 09:40 PM
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http://www.wantchinatimes.com/news-subclass-cnt.aspx?id=20120204000027&cid=1105&MainCatID=11

Matt

Can you you help me write a sentence comparing Bakersfield pm2.5 with Beijing's? Thanks, Jared

Sent from my iPad