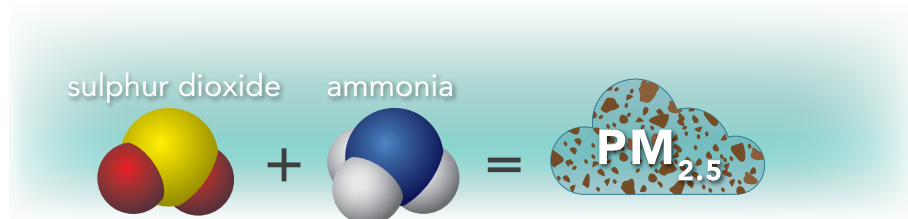


LET'S AIR ON THE SAFE SIDE WITH SULPHUR DIOXIDE

WHAT IS SULPHUR DIOXIDE?

Sulphur dioxide is a colourless gas that smells like burnt matches.

It is emitted when fossil fuels containing sulphur are burned. Sulphur dioxide can also react with other substances in the air to form **particulate matter** which can affect human health and create a "white haze" in the air.



SULPHUR DIOXIDE AND...

YOUR HEALTH

Exposure to high levels of sulphur dioxide can damage your health by:

- Aggravating asthma
- Increasing respiratory symptoms

Check out Health Canada's Website to learn more

THE ENVIRONMENT

Sulphur dioxide can affect our environment and our economy by:

- Acidifying soil and surface water
- Damaging crops and trees
- Damaging or discolouring structures and property



BURRARD INLET AREA

In 2012 Metro Vancouver completed a study that found higher sulphur dioxide levels in the Burrard Inlet area than other areas in Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley Regional District. This conclusion was not surprising because the two largest sulphur dioxide emission sources – marine vessels and a petroleum refinery – operate in this area. Fortunately, stringent new regulations for ships are expected to reduce sulphur dioxide emissions considerably.

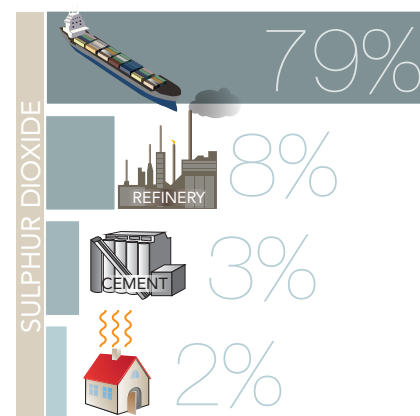
For more air quality information visit:

Caring for the Air | BC Air Quality | Environment Canada |
Transport Canada | Northwest Clean Air Agency | US Environmental
Protection Agency



WHERE DO SULPHUR DIOXIDE EMISSIONS COME FROM?

The biggest emitters of sulphur dioxide in Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley Regional District are:



[Click here for more information about emissions in our region.](#)

WHAT IS METRO VANCOUVER DOING ABOUT SULPHUR DIOXIDE?

Metro Vancouver is taking action by adopting more stringent sulphur dioxide objectives to better protect human health. Check out our *Integrated Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan* to learn about other actions that will reduce sulphur dioxide emissions in our region.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Visit Metro Vancouver's air quality and climate change webpages at www.metrovancouver.org/air for tips!