

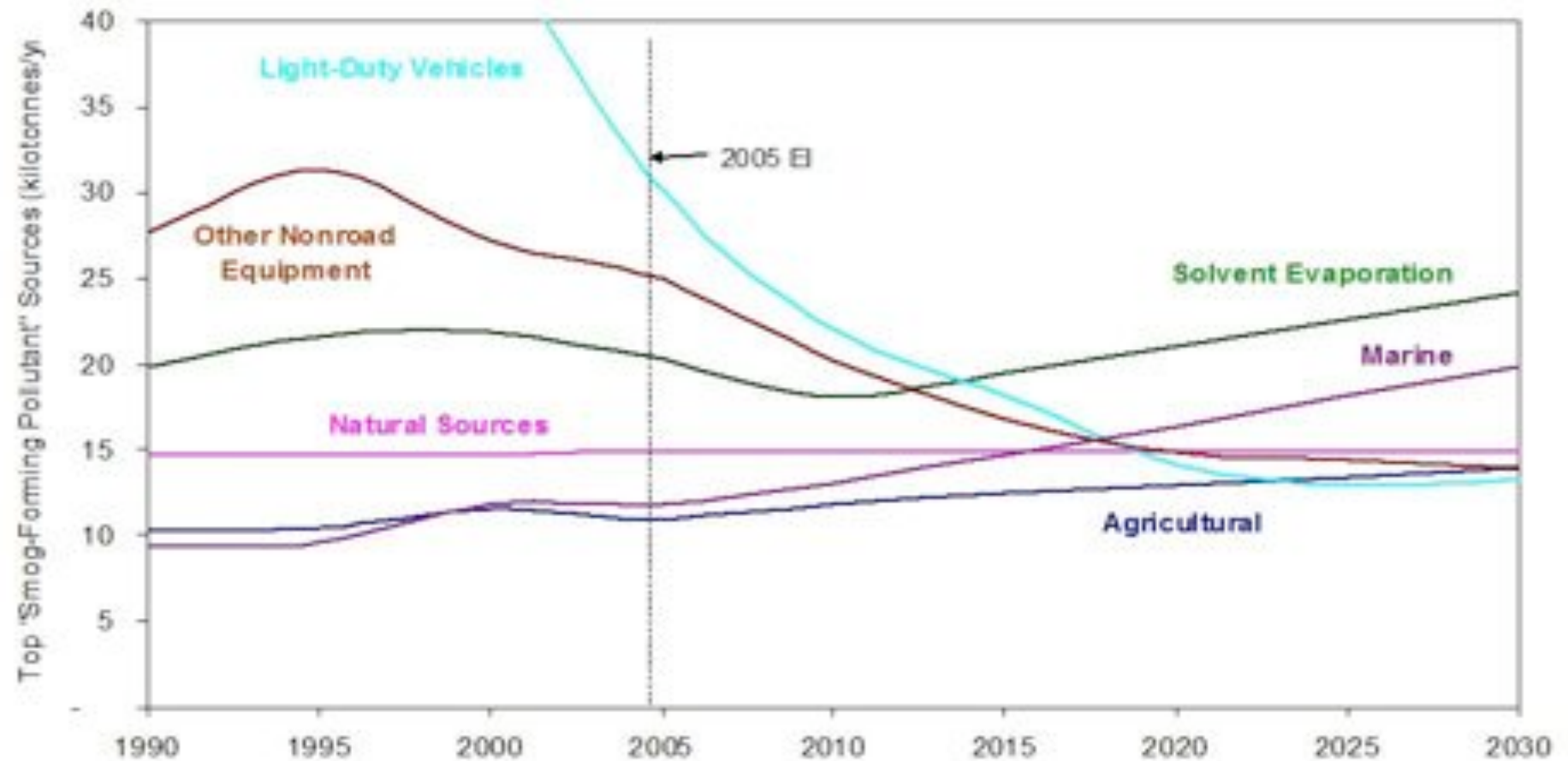
Potential Impact in the Valley of Waste-to-Energy Facilities

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Smog Forming Pollutant Emission Trends



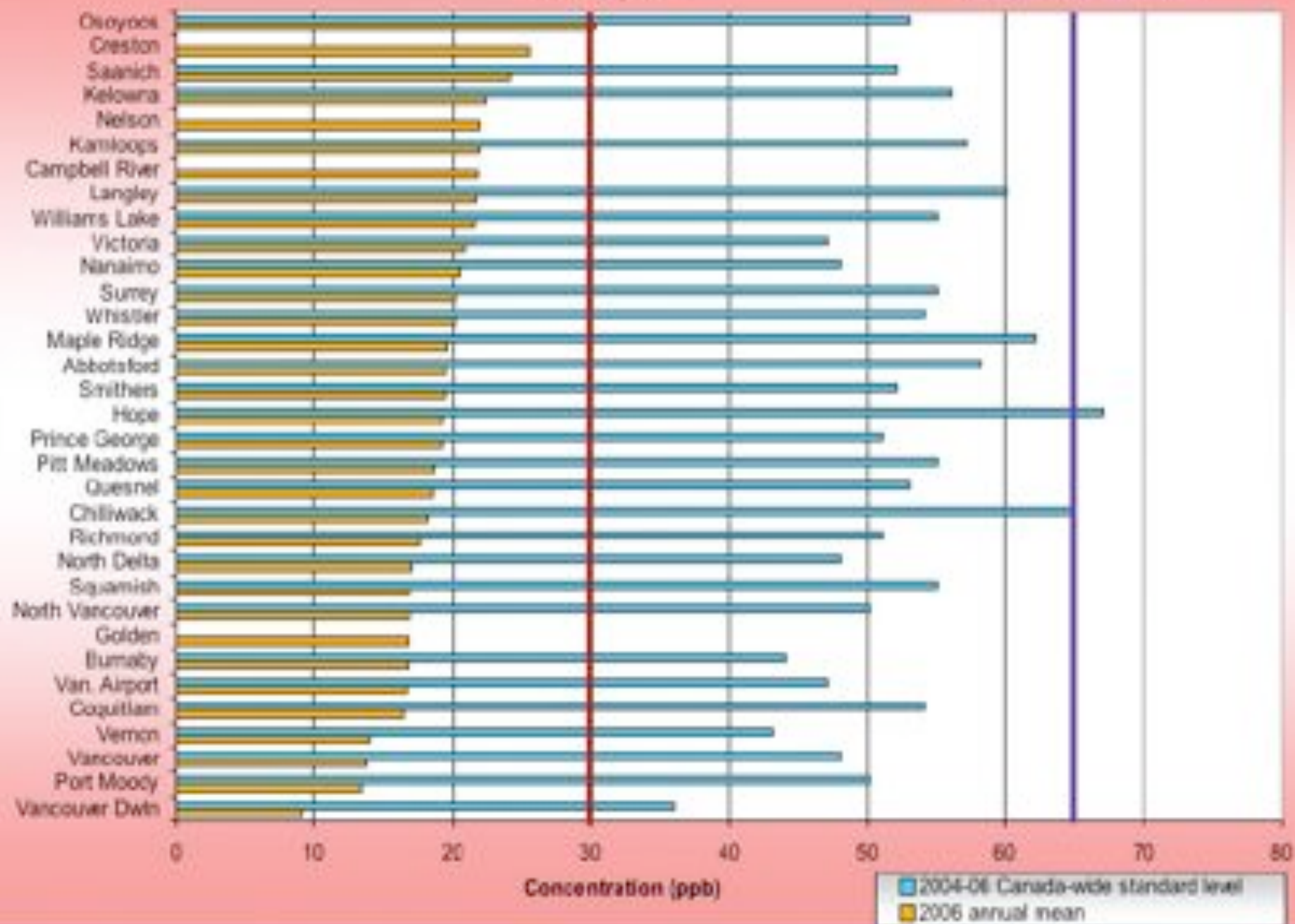
Ozone

- ❖ Causes eye, nose, throat irritation
- ❖ Reduces lung function
- ❖ Aggravates respiratory disease
- ❖ Medical research indicates no safe threshold
- ❖ Can reduce agricultural crop yields

2006 Ambient Levels of Ozone Across BC

Annual Objective

Canada-wide standard



PM_{2.5} and Ammonia

- ❖ PM_{2.5} can be inhaled into the lungs
- ❖ Secondary PM_{2.5} formed from ammonia
- ❖ Largest source of ammonia is agriculture
- ❖ Medical research indicates no safe threshold
- ❖ PM_{2.5} creates visibility impacts
- ❖ WTE impacts on PM_{2.5} & Ozone levels

Abbotsford Airport 2006



April 22nd : 0 ug/m³



August 16th : 20 ug/m³

FVRD Concerns about WTE

- No analysis to show WTE is best option
 - Need thorough technical/scientific/engineering rpts.
 - Need to demonstrate technical viability, environmental, financial, & social implications
- Consultation to date has focused only on WTE option & has not fully involved stakeholders
- Some proposed technology is unproven

FVRD Concerns (cont'd)

- WTE could negate AQ improvements made in last few decades
- Cumulative impacts should be considered
- 70% Diversion rate could be increased
- WTE provides disincentive for expansion of reduce/reuse/ recycle strategies

CCME Direction

- Feb. 17, 2009 Ministers meeting in Whitehorse – action to reduce packaging and other waste
- CCME's EPR Task Group consulting on two related Discussion Documents
- Direction is clear and trending toward reduced waste

Summary

- Air pollution is a challenge in FVRD and largely results from emissions in MV
- WTE facilities could aggravate this situation
- Analysis to date does not consider other options
- Consultation has centred only on WTE option
- Some WTE technology is unproven
- Trend is to higher rates of diversion, as WTE is a disincentive

Challenges

- ❖ We live in a sensitive airshed
- ❖ No safe threshold for Ozone and PM_{2.5}
- ❖ We are subject to imported emissions from MV and Whatcom County
- ❖ WTE facilities are potential significant point source of pollution

FVRD Position

A WTE strategy in MV should not be considered a viable option unless all outstanding issues are resolved.

The eastern Fraser Valley is already suffering from deteriorating air quality and it would be a retrograde action to add to this burden.