



MONTHLY AIR QUALITY REPORT FOR
NOVEMBER 2005

AOI COLOR SCALE

GOOD	MODERATE	UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS	UNHEALTHY
0-50	51-100	101-150	151-200

Calendar of maximum AQI values & their corresponding color for November 2005*

*Preliminary data

SAMPLE POLLUTANT REPORTING BOX

1 (day of month)	O3	CO
	PM10	PM2.5

SUN			MON			TUES			WED			THU			FRI			SAT		
					1	38	32	2	34	35	3	26	34	4	30	38	5	38	41	
						106	48		104	51		105	60		93	58		73	55	
6	38	35	7	32	34	8	34	39	9	34	41	10	27	39	11	30	36	12	33	27
	63	53		88	52		86	52		85	54		106	64		56	44		52	55
13	34	28	14	30	28	15	36	22	16	36	30	17	33	31	18	34	31	19	34	27
	53	56		86	53		65	31		90	38		101	65		108	33		77	55
20	38	28	21	34	35	22	34	44	23	32	44	24	30	25	25	32	25	26	38	27
	71	30		97	56		118	77		111	69		61	61		65	58		73	37
27	33	06	28	28	20	29	27	31	30	25	38									
	44	20		74	40		93	60		98	75									

Exceedance days during NOV 2005-

Total= 8	<u>Date</u>	<u>Max AQI</u>	<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Site/s</u>
	11/01	106	PM-10	West Forty Third
	11/02	104	PM-10	West Forty Third
	11/03	105	PM-10	Durango
	11/10	106	PM-10	West Forty Third
	11/17	101	PM-10	Durango
	11/18	108	PM-10	Buckeye
	11/22	118	PM-10	Durango
		110	PM-10	West Forty Third
	11/23	111	PM-10	West Forty Third
		106	PM-10	Durango

Health Watches issued during NOV 2005-

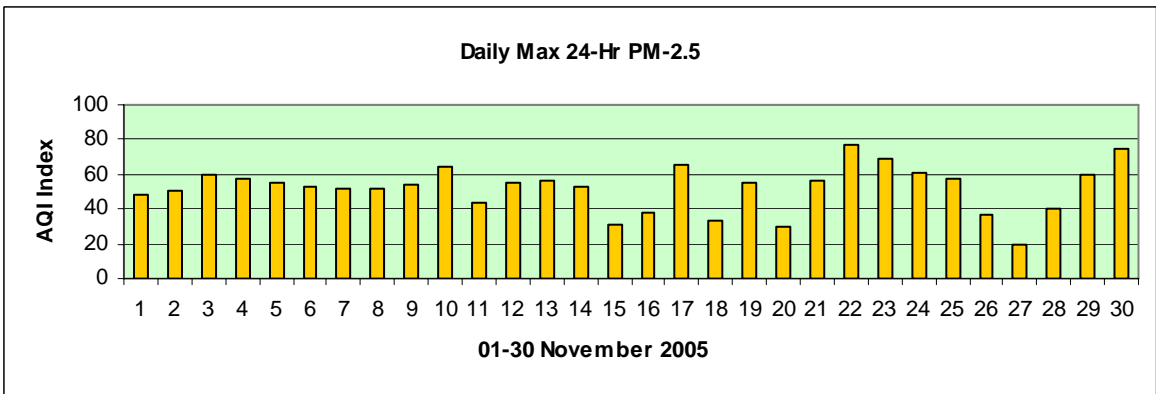
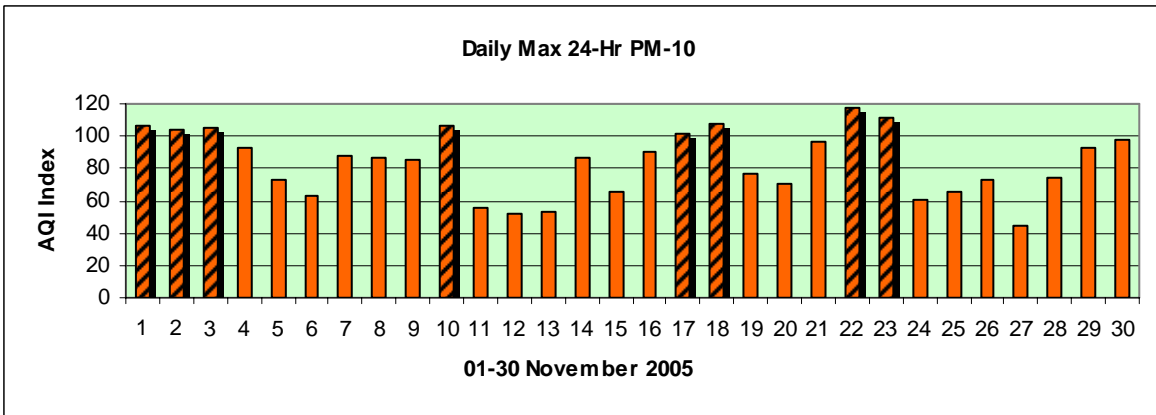
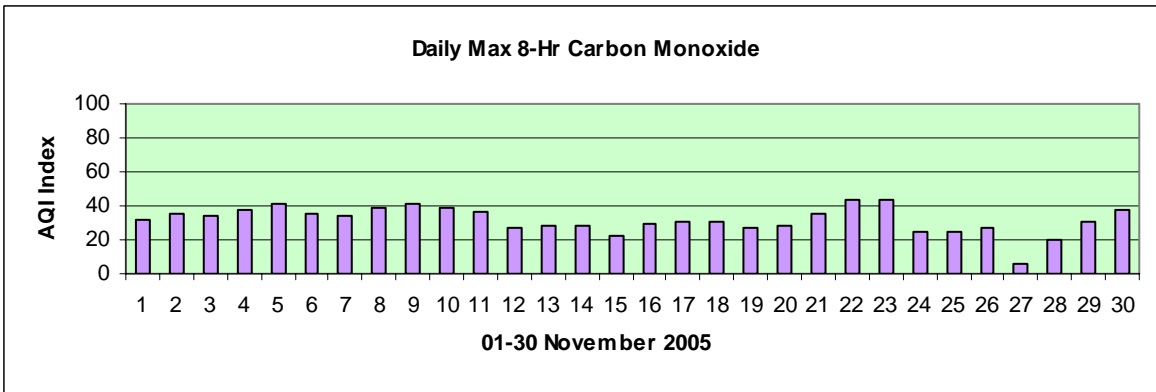
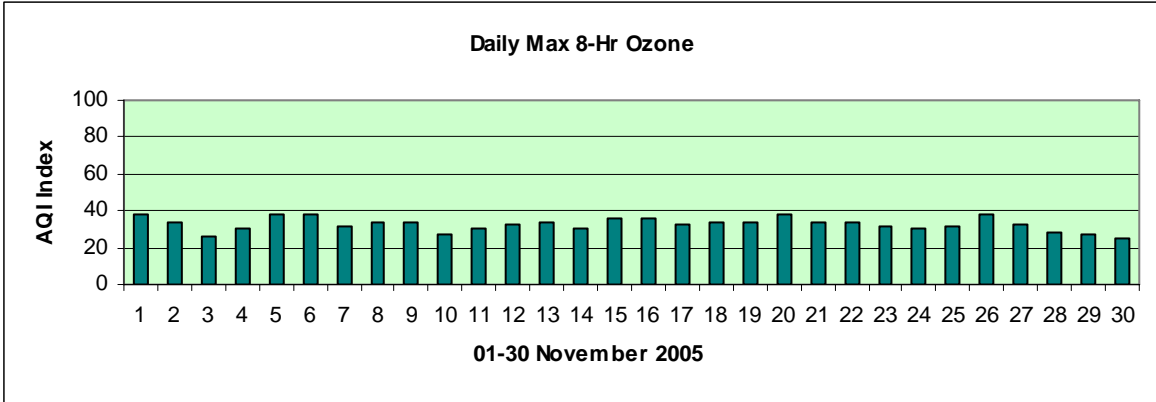
Total= 11	<u>Date</u>	<u>Max AQI</u>	<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Site/s</u>
	11/05	73	PM-10	Durango
	11/06	63	PM-10	West Forty Third
	11/08	86	PM-10	West Forty Third
	11/09	85	PM-10	Durango
	11/10	106	PM-10	West Forty Third
	11/17	101	PM-10	Durango
	11/21	97	PM-10	Durango
	11/24	61	PM-10	West Forty Third
	11/25	65	PM-10	West Forty Third
	11/26	73	PM-10	West Forty Third
	11/29	93	PM-10	West Forty Third

High Pollution Advisories issued during NOV 2005-

Total= 4	<u>Date</u>	<u>Max AQI</u>	<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Site/s</u>
	11/04	93	PM-10	West Forty Third
	11/22	118	PM-10	Durango
	11/23	111	PM-10	West Forty Third
	11/30	98	PM-10	West Forty Third

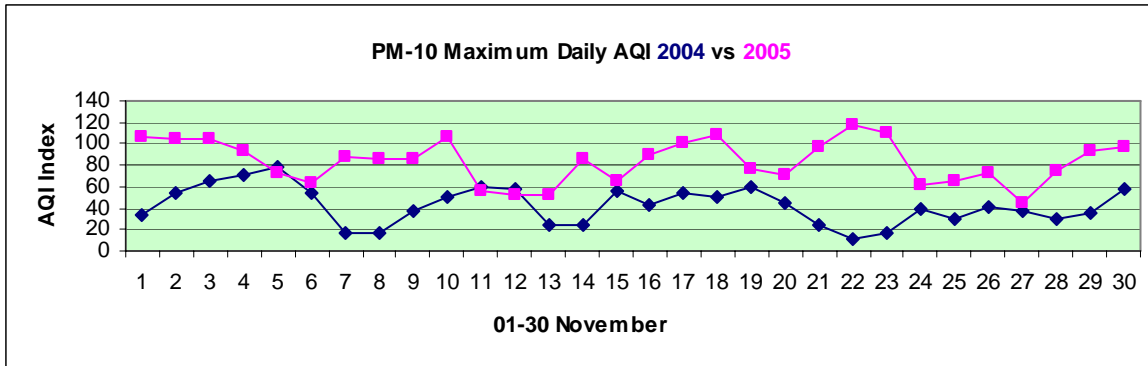
Concentration Recap:

Days in the Good category:	1
Days in the Moderate category:	21
Days in the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups category:	8
Days in the Unhealthy category:	0
Total Forecast Days:	30



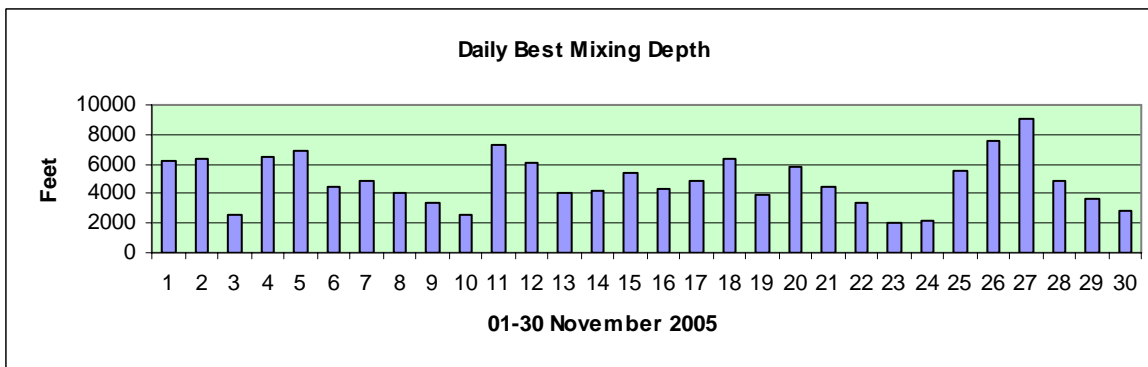
Narrative:

Ozone, carbon monoxide, and to a large extent PM-2.5 (fine particle) concentrations, were what one would expect during the month of November. However, there was an unprecedented and sustained increase in PM-10 (coarse particle) levels that resulted in more exceedances of the 24-hr standard than had occurred in the Phoenix metro during at least the previous five year period. Numerous high pollution advisories and health watches had to be issued and forecasters had to recalibrate their criteria for PM-10 forecasting since practically every day carried the risk of elevated particle pollution levels – the average PM-10 AQI was 83! This was in stark contrast to November 2004 when PM-10 levels were closer to “normal”. See the graph below:



It appears that a confluence of weather-related events contributed to the high PM-10 levels:

- The long-wave ridge position in the mid-latitude storm track was overhead or nearby almost the entire period and any troughs that managed to pass by produced winds and clouds but no rain.
- No local precipitation since October 18 meant that large-scale soil and desert surface stabilization did not occur and that construction sites had to be manually watered during the entire month.
- Because the ridge was in such close proximity most of the month, associated subsidence aloft, light winds, and very stable conditions produced long periods of air mass stagnation with low mixing heights and less than favorable dispersion (see graph below). The air mass was also quite dry and cloud cover was either sparse or of the high variety. This led to frequent moderate to strong morning surface-based radiation inversions that on some days were never broken. Local visibilities were also impacted with the *Valley Brown Cloud* of trapped particles lowering them to below 10 miles on several days.



Of course, particle emissions from mobile and stationary sources continue to be the principal cause of the valley’s high pollution levels; it should be pointed out that despite the weather no exceedances of the federal health standard occurred during the weekends when PM emissions are typically at their lowest. -Reith