Ontario's Development of a Proposed Technical Standard for the Metal Finishing Sector - Update

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Canadian Association for Surface Finishing
CASF Technical & Environmental Forum
Vaughan, Ontario

Overview

- Ontario's Local Air Quality Regulation
- Technical Standard Compliance Approach
- Update on development of a proposed technical standard for the metal finishing sector

Local Air Quality Regulation

- Ontario's Local Air Quality Regulation (O. Reg. 419/05: Air Pollution – Local Air Quality) works within the province's air management framework by regulating air contaminants released into communities by various sources including local industrial and commercial facilities.

- Our goal is to limit exposure to substances released into air that can affect human health and the environment, while allowing industry to operate responsibly under a set of rules that are publicly transparent.

Local Air Quality Regulation

The regulation includes three compliance approaches for industry to demonstrate environmental performance and make improvements when required:

❶ Demonstrate **compliance with the general air standards** by the phase-in period.

(Assessed using approved air dispersion models or through modelling and monitoring.)

OR

❷ Request and meet a **site-specific standard.**

(Available to facilities affected by new or updated requirements. Assessed using approved air dispersion models or through modelling and monitoring.)

OR

❸ Register and meet the requirements under a **technical standard** for specified contaminants.

(Provided the MOE has developed a technical standard that applies to the sector and those contaminants.)

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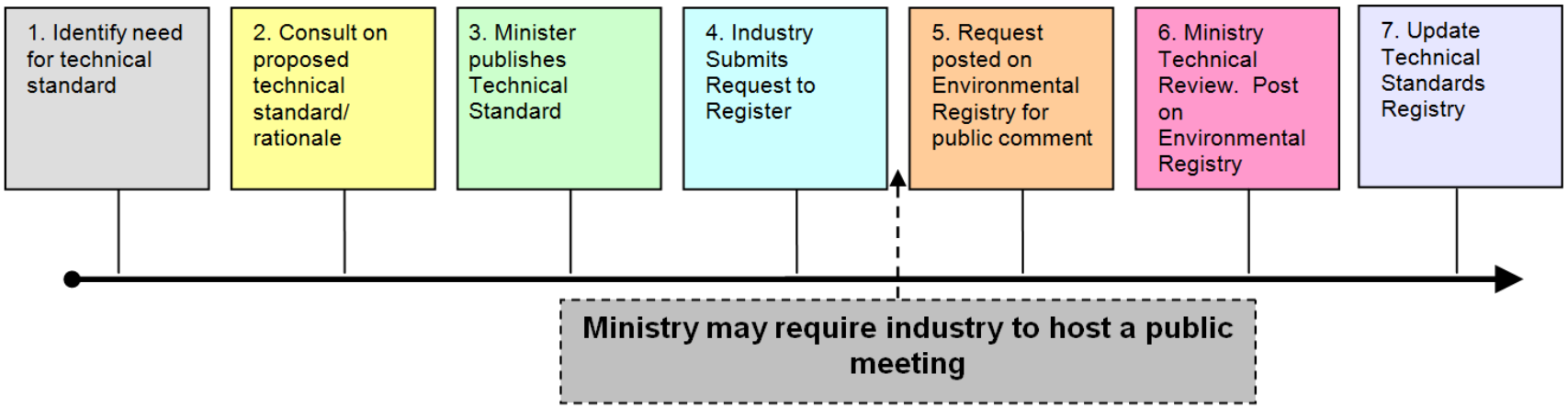
Technical Standard Compliance Approach

- Technology-based solution designed for two or more facilities in a sector that may not be able to meet an air standard due to technical or economic limitations.
- Can include technology, operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.
- Development includes a better understanding of specific sources of contaminants for that sector, benchmarking technology to address the sources of contaminants and consideration of economic issues that related to the sector.
- Any facility in the sector (that may or may not meet the air standard) may request to be registered under the technical standard (once established).
- Goal is to have a more efficient tool to better manage air emissions and reduce overall exposure from various industrial and commercial facilities in a sector.
- There are two types of technical standards:

Industry Standards
Address all sources of specified contaminants from a specific sector.

Equipment Standards
Address one source of contaminant(s), but may apply to one or multiple sectors.

Technical Standard Process



A facility that meets its obligations under a technical standard is in compliance with the regulation for the registered contaminants.

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Technical Standards

Currently Established Technical Standards

- forest products industry standard
- foundries industry standard

Technical Standards Under Development

- fiber glass insulation manufacturing
- foundries update (additional substances and sources)
- hot mix asphalt
- iron and steel (coke and by-products plants)
- metal finishers
- mine sites (excludes smelting and refining operations)
- mini-mills (iron and steel)
- petrochemical
- petroleum refineries
- pulp and paper mills (forest products update)

Metal Finishing Sector

- Ontario's metal finishing sector identified challenges for their facilities in meeting the new **hexavalent chromium** air standard which takes effect July 1, 2016.

- Chromium compounds (hexavalent):
  - 0.00014 µg/m^3, annual average (Schedule 3 Air Standard*)
  - 0.0021 µg/m^3, 1/2-hour average (Schedule 2 Air Standard*)
  - 0.07 µg/m^3, 24-hour average (Schedule 6 Upper Risk Threshold**)
  - 0.21 µg/m^3, 1/2-hour average (Schedule 6 Upper Risk Threshold**)

- Ontario's metal finishing sector requested that the technical standard compliance approach be developed. They felt this option would be beneficial to the sector.

* Air Standards - effective July 1, 2016

** URTs - effective July 29, 2011

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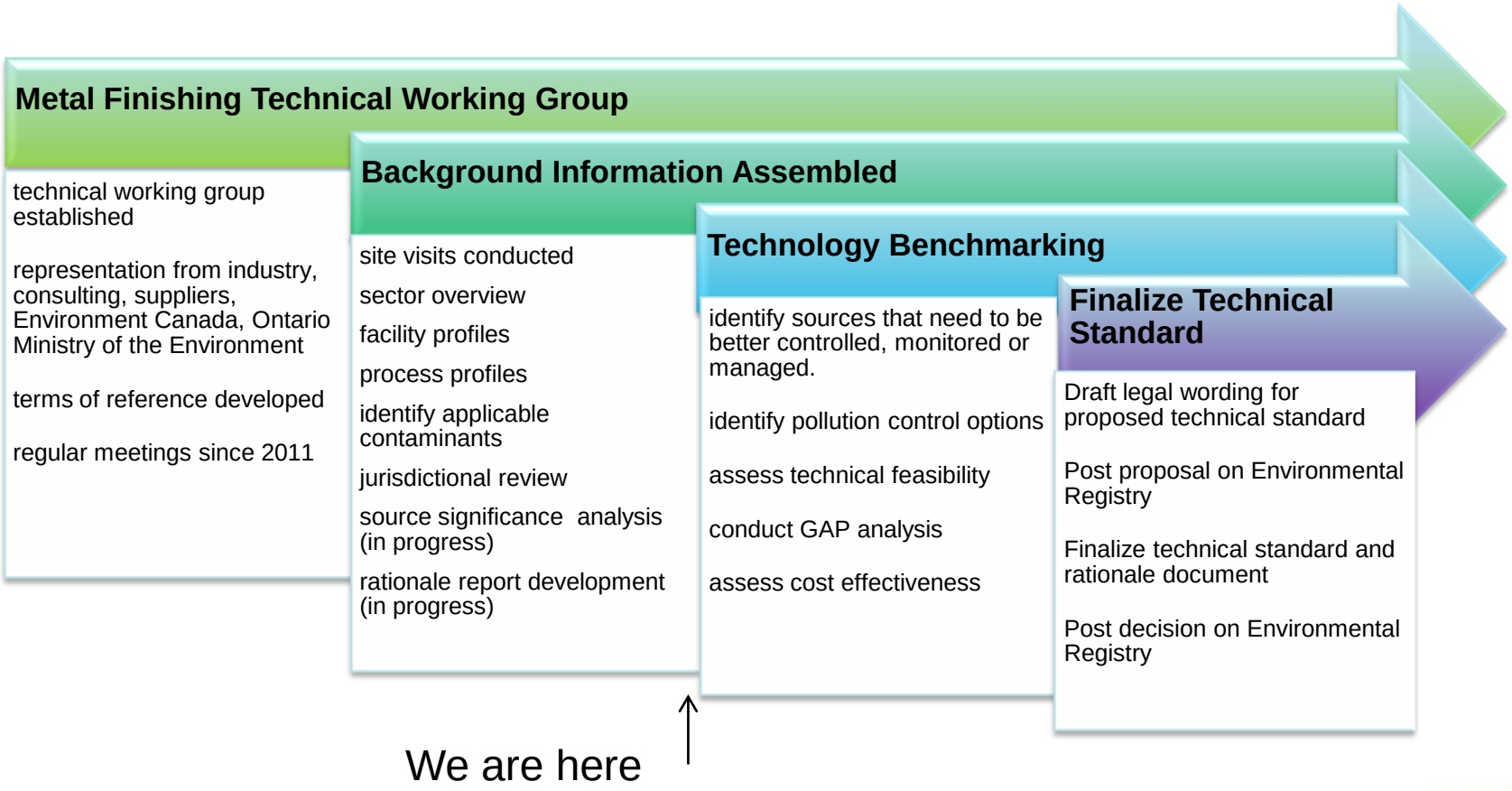
Progress on Development of Proposed Metal Finishing Technical Standard



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How to Stay Informed

- Information on Local Air Quality Regulation is available at MOE website: http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/industry/standards/industrial_air_emissions/air_pollution/index.htm -
- Information on Technical Standards is available at MOE website: http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/resources/STDPROD_078194.html
- Once a draft is developed, a notice of the proposed metal finishing technical standard will be posted to the Environmental Registry for public comment.
- New policy proposals, requests for site-specific standards or registrations to technical standards proposals can also be found on the Environmental Registry: http://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/index.jsp
- Community or public consultation/engagement can occur at key milestones throughout the process.

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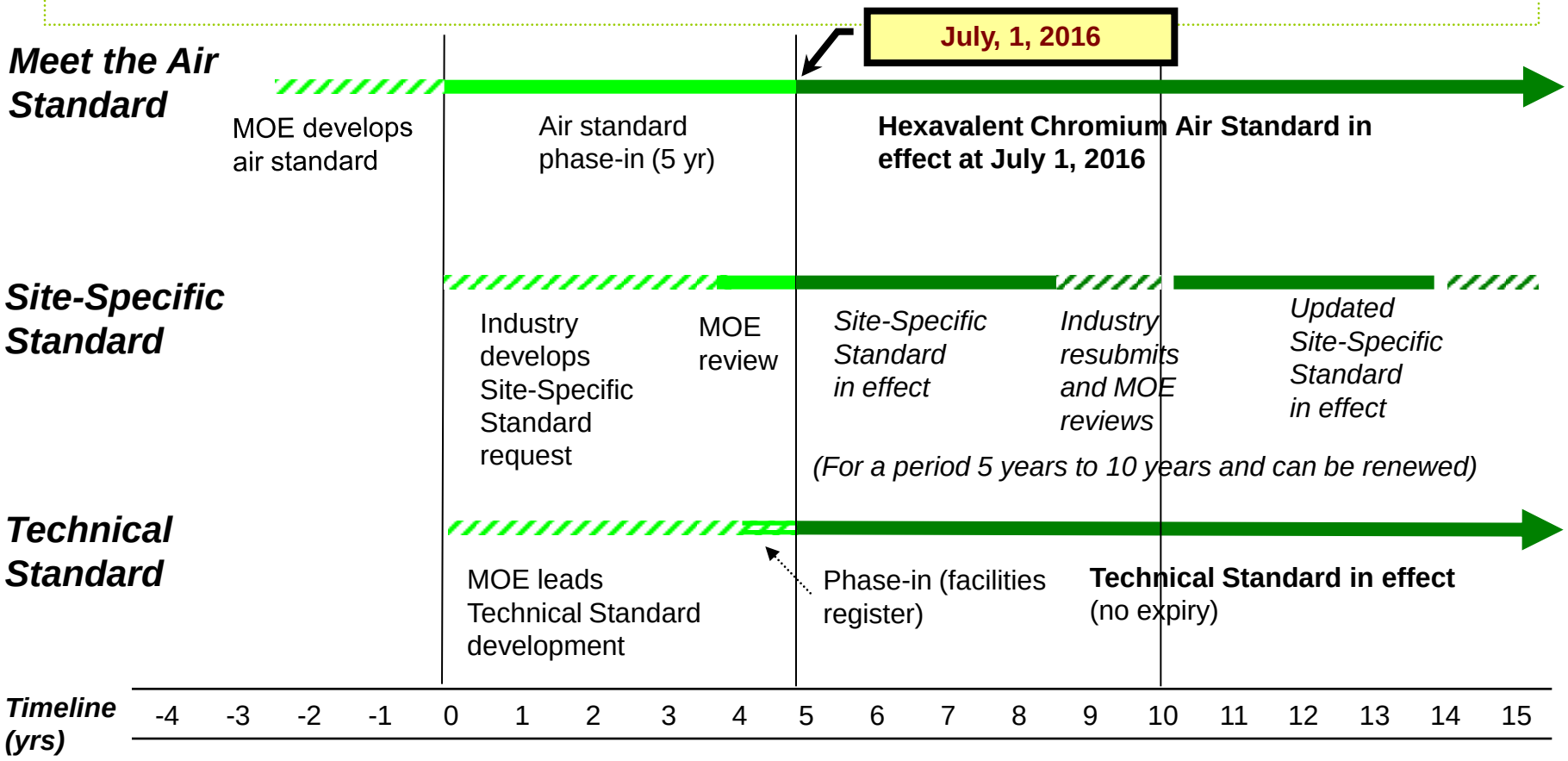
Questions?

Appendix - Regulatory Pathways/Timelines for Hexavalent Chromium



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