



Environment Southland Air Shed

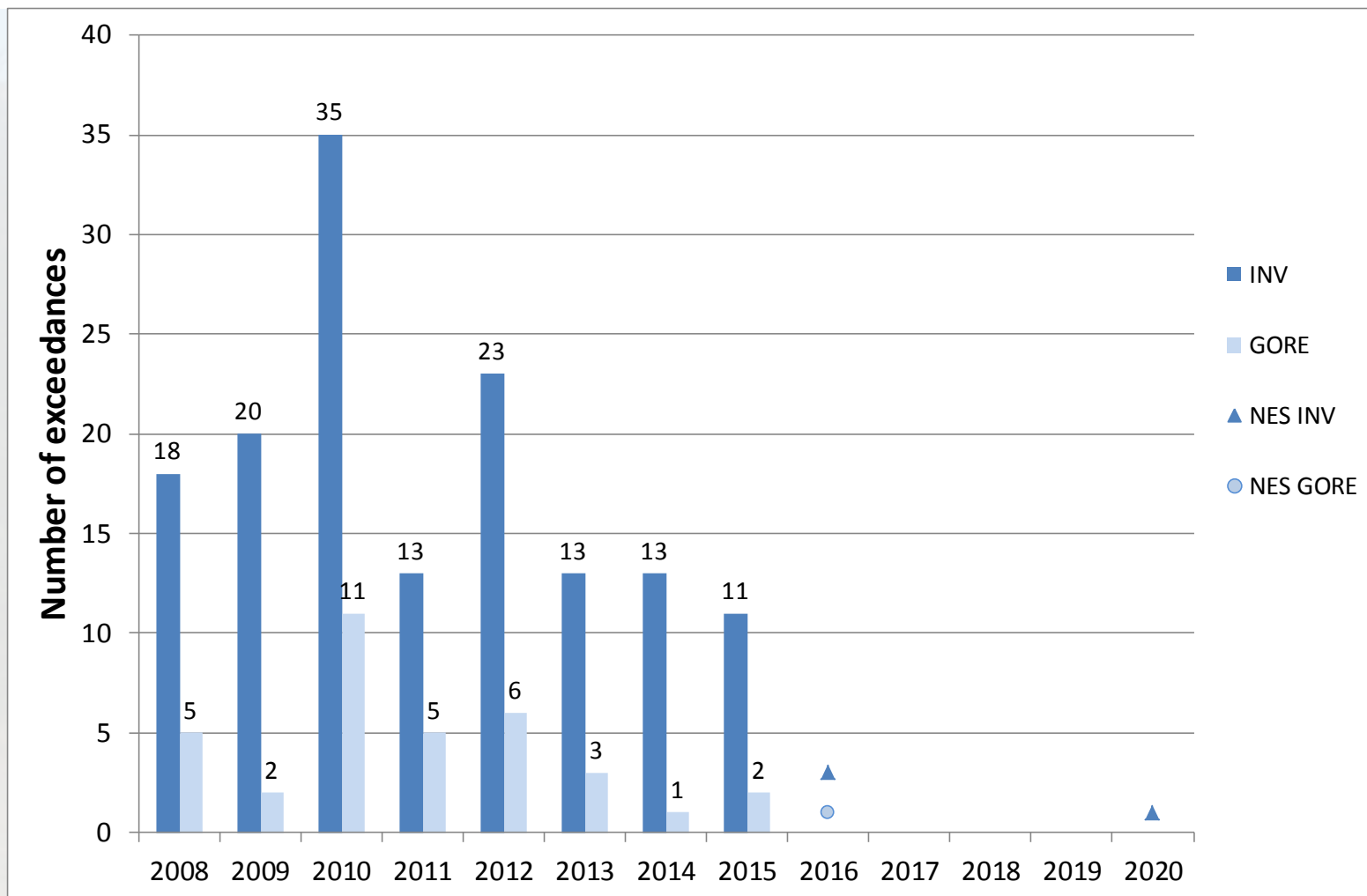
Commercial Biomass Boilers Symposium – 21 July 2016



Overview

- State of air quality in Southland
- What are the current regulations?
- How might these change?
- Why is change needed?

How bad is it really?



Key issue?

Invercargill

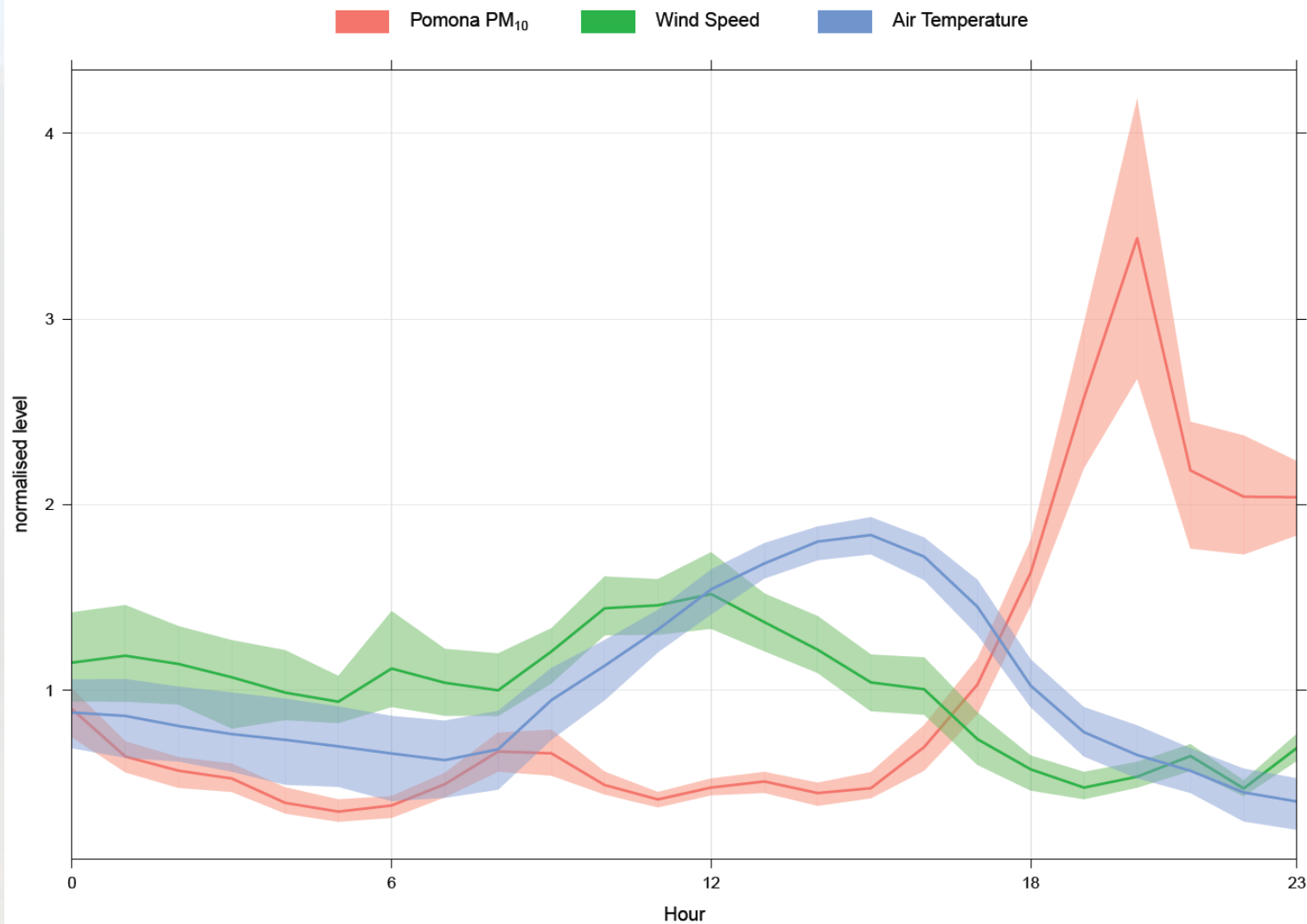
92%



Gore

96%

Diurnal variability



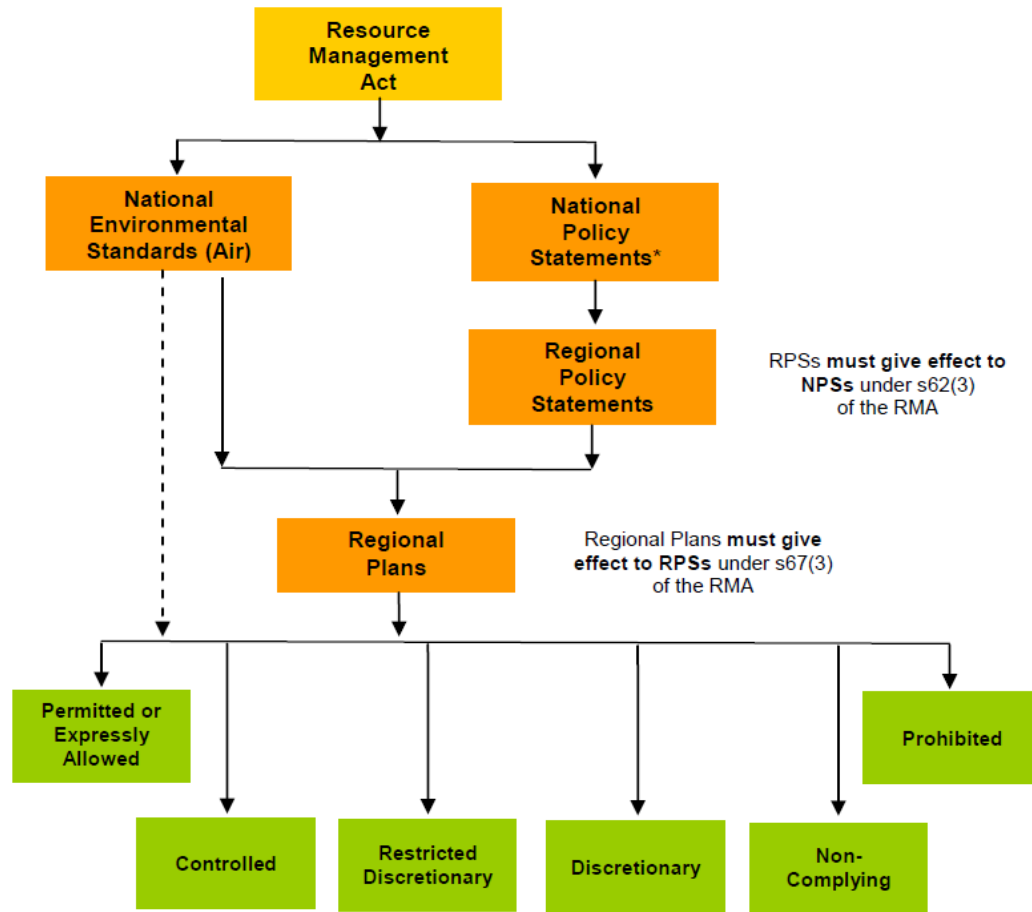
What does that look like?



Role of the weather?



Regulatory Framework



* The only one currently affecting air quality management is the NZCPS

(Source: Ministry for the Environment, 2011)

NES for Air Quality

National Environmental Standards for Air Quality

Target dates to meet the ambient PM₁₀ standard

Gore - 1 Sep 2016

Invercargill - 1 Sep 2020

Require offsets for industry.

Provision for exceptional events.

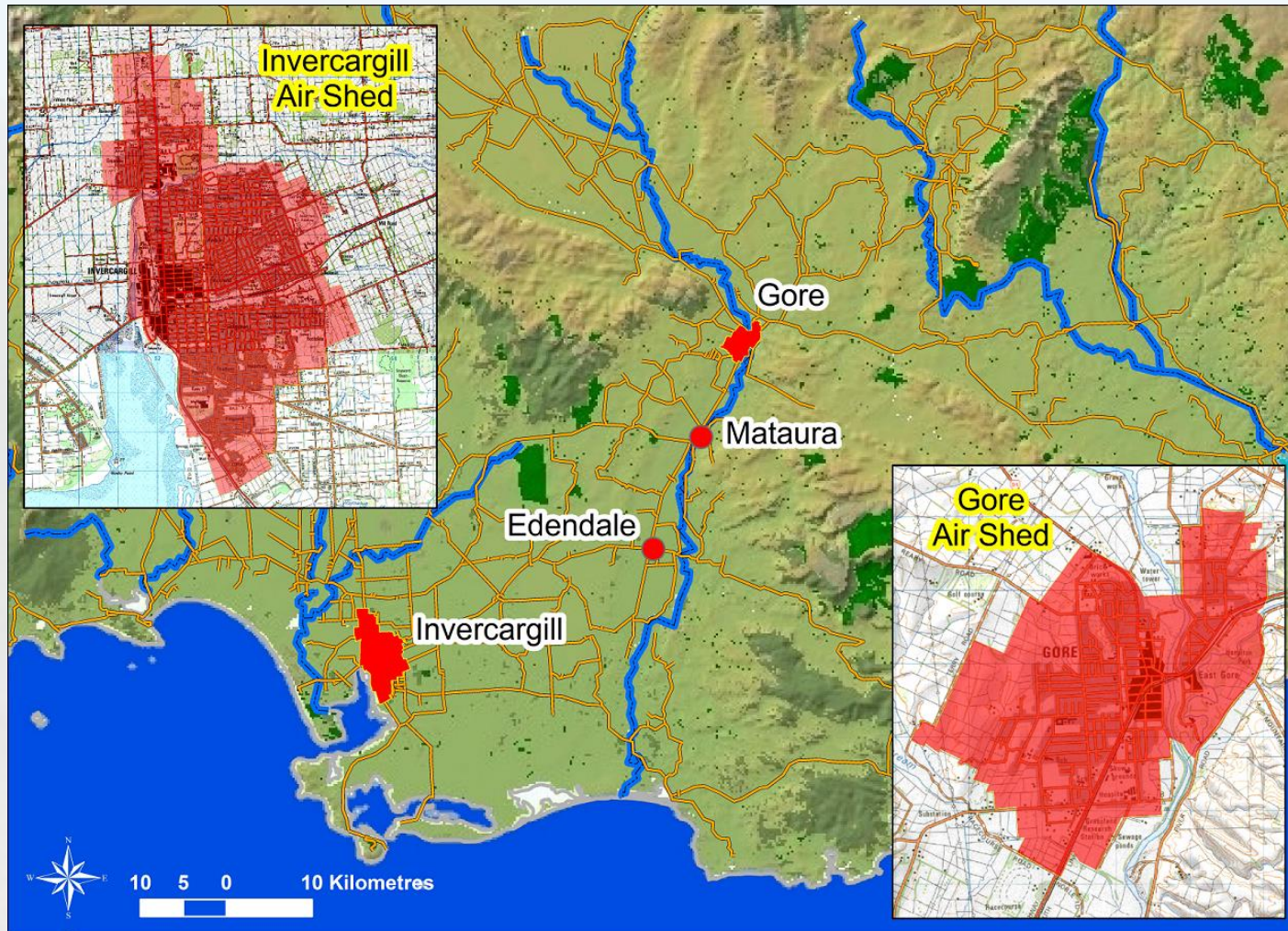
Prohibit new solid-fuel burning open fires in airsheds from June 2013

Seven activity standards that ban activities that discharge unacceptable quantities of dioxons and toxics air.

Design standard for new small-scale domestic wood burning appliances (after 2005).

Five ambient air quality standards – carbon monoxide, PM₁₀, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and ozone.

Southland Airsheds



Proposed Regional Air Plan

Proposed Regional Air Plan

Covers all of Southland – including areas outside of gazetted airsheds

Reviewed in 2014 – Stage 1

Domestic
heating

Outdoor
burning

Agrichemicals
and Fertilisers

Fire training

Industrial and
Trade
Premises
(existing rules
retained)

Domestic heating

- Small scale solid fuel burning appliance
 - Must meet the NESAQ wood burner standard.
- Small scale solid fuel boilers (<60kW)
 - 1.5g TSP/kg of fuel and 65% efficiency or a max of 300mg/m³
- Fuel specifications
 - Wood <25% moisture content, pellets, treated.

Industrial Combustion

- Heat output of <5MW is a Permitted Activity
 - Subject to criteria, including chimney heights, opacity and TSP emission limit of 250mg/m³.
- Over 5MW becomes a Discretionary Activity
 - Information requirements.

How do these compare?

Permitted Activities

- Other councils range between 100kW-5MW (e.g. ORC is 1MW, Wellington 2MW).

Other notable features

- Emission controls
- Limits for pellet boilers
- Sulphur content

How might they change?

- Similar to other regional councils
- Chimney heights based on heat output and fuel type.
- Fuel type restrictions (e.g. sulphur in coal)
- New criteria for Permitted Activities
- New information requirements

Stage 2 - Timeline

2017

- To begin once the NESAQ have been reviewed.

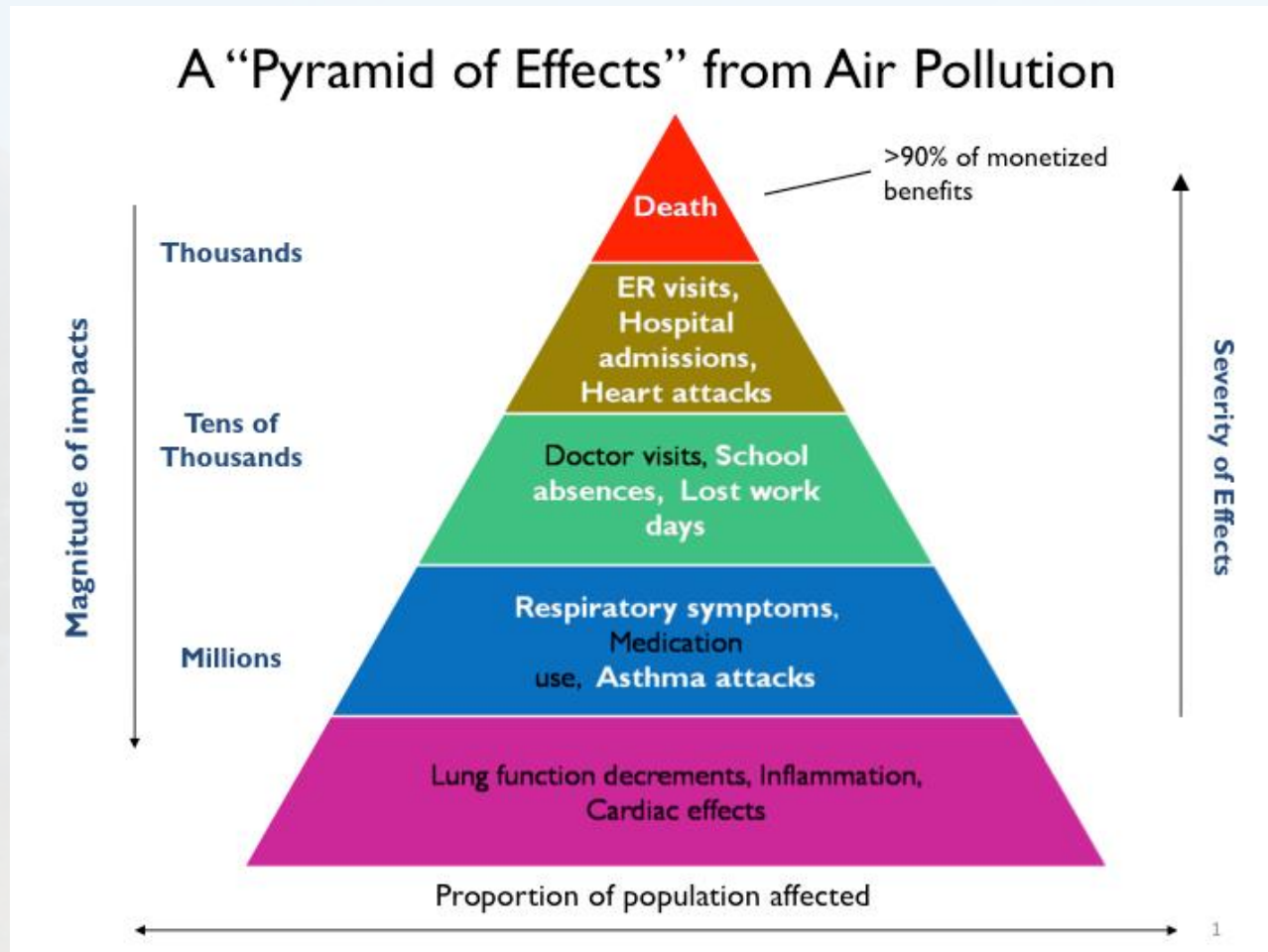
Late 2017

- Review existing framework and provisions.

2018

- Consultation with stakeholders to identify right approach for Southland.

Why are changes needed?



(Source: USEPA, 2014)

Further information

Up to date information will be available on

www.BreatheEasySouthland.co.nz