

Appendix II – f. Summary of interview responses to Charge Question #4a

4a) Provide a recommendation to the NARSTO Executive Assembly as to whether or not NARSTO should continue to operate.

Each row below corresponds to the comments of a particular interviewee whose names have been redacted

NARSTO to continue		
Yes	No	Why
Yes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps to insure more Canadian/US/Mexican discussion. • State and regional environmental agency personnel do not have a lot of time/resources to pay attention to or keep up with the current literature, therefore NARSTO reports are important. • Membership is useful on a personal basis to help with contacts and topical speakers. As well membership provides insights/alerts to meetings of relevance. In addition membership presents opportunities to input directly into timely and relevant topics
Yes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NARSTO provides an important service to NOAA by opening opportunities to collaborate with top researchers in other institutions and promoting links to the private sector and to academic research communities in Canada and Mexico that would not otherwise be available.
Yes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would be a shame for NARSTO to go away – it is after all not an expensive organization.
Yes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify future effects vs. immediate effects and monetize those effects vs. investments/expenditures, an economic valuation issue.
Yes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since health effects are such important driver of air quality management decisions, NARSTO could play a useful future role in developing improved AQ health assessments.
Yes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of current funding commitment is the end of fiscal 2009. Not necessarily the end of NARSTO. • This review will be an important part of DOE discussions. • Currently funding is ad-hoc and via a grant. • There is nothing preventing other ways of funding if there is a will. • One of the strengths of NARSTO is that science/research is linked to policy makers.
Yes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good place to study the environmental effects of criteria pollutants. Secondary NAAQS have been relatively neglected in recent years, and that this might be another productive area for future NARSTO research focus.

<p>4a) Provide a recommendation to the NARSTO Executive Assembly as to whether or not NARSTO should continue to operate.</p> <p>Each row below corresponds to the comments of a particular interviewee whose names have been redacted</p>		
<p>NARSTO to continue</p>		
<p>Yes</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Why</p>
<p>Yes</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If NARSTO did not exist and the assessments were not on record the impact would be significant. The main point to make is that due to a significant lack of time trend data, it is not possible to say, or it is very difficult to quantify the impact of NARSTO on Mexican air quality. What can be said with some significant certainty is that if NARSTO does not exist in the future, the question will never be answered.
<p>Yes</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I do not think that there is any other organization where you have people from all 3 countries coming together. It is unique and should be supported. • There is a role that NARSTO can and should play and I would like to see it continue.