



Air Quality Subcommittee (AQS)

Minutes of January 14, 2010, Meeting

Attendees

Beth Gorman, Chair
Mitch Basefsky, CAP
Paula Bluemer, Town of Marana
Larry Bogdanski, ADEQ
Wayne Byrd, PDEQ
Kathy Chavez, Pima County
Dave Crockett, Flowing Wells Irrigation District
Zig Fang, TEP
Jacqueline Franklin, Tucson Chamber of Commerce
Joy Herr-Cardillo, ACLPI

Robin Johnson, PDEQ
Dale Keyes, Consensus Mediation Services
Charles Komadina, TEP
Dee Korich, Tucson Water
Chad Lapora, City of Tucson
Colleen McKaughan, EPA
Asia Philbin, Tucson Water
Karen Wilhelmsen, PDEQ
Jeff Yockey, TEP

PAG Staff

Lee Comrie
Sue Cotty
Andy Gunning
Steve Matthews
Claire Zucker

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Beth Gorman at 1:38 p.m. and introductions were made.

2. In-Kind Form

Attendees were encouraged to sign the in-kind form as appropriate.

3. Call to Audience

No comments were offered.

4. Approval of Minutes of Oct. 6, 2009

Beth Gorman mentioned a few changes to her Roundtable comments as stated in the minutes. She requested that credit be given to PDEQ staff instead of attributing the work efforts to her alone. Upon adoption of these changes, the minutes were unanimously approved by the Subcommittee members.

5. Announcements/Comments

January announcements were sent electronically as part of the meeting packet. Ms. Comrie noted that the EPA approved two revisions to the Arizona State Implementation Plan (SIP): the 2008 Revision to the Carbon Monoxide Limited Maintenance Plan (CO LMP) submitted on July 10, 2008, and a statutory provision, submitted on June 22, 2009, that extends the life of the State's vehicle emissions inspection program through the end of 2016. The effect of this action is to make certain

commitments related to the maintenance of the CO standard in the Tucson Air Planning Area federally enforceable parts of the Arizona SIP until 2020.

Ms. Cotty announced that a Beat Back Buffelgrass Day has been scheduled for Feb. 6, 2010, and encouraged regional participation.

6. EPA Update on Regional Issues

Colleen McKaughan, EPA, provided a summary of recent air quality-related actions impacting the Tucson region. Ms. McKaughan noted the release of the Advanced Notice of a Proposed Rulemaking for the Navajo Generation Station (NGS) Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Federal Implementation Plan. The BART provisions of the Regional Haze Rule require reductions in the emissions of air pollutants that impact visibility in Class I areas. The pollutants of concern at the NGS are NO_x and particulates. She outlined the public review process, upcoming hearings and comment period. She anticipated that the Notice of the Proposed Rulemaking will be published early this summer.

Ms. McKaughan also presented information on EPA's proposed revised standards for ozone and their potential impacts on Arizona's counties, depending upon the value chosen for the primary and secondary standards.

Lastly, Ms. McKaughan summarized the status of the designation of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} nonattainment areas in Pinal County. The PowerPoint presentation is available at: www.pagnet.org/documents/Committees/AQS/2010/AQS-2010-01-14-EPAUpdates.pdf

7. Nominations of AQS Chair

The Committee was asked to nominate a new AQS Chair. No suggestions were offered and Beth Gorman was reelected unanimously as the AQS Chair.

8. Air Quality Roundtable

Lee Comrie mentioned that she has been researching the impacts of lowered ozone standards on PAG's air quality planning activities, ozone attainment plan development, funding and conformity requirements.

Sue Cotty noted her continued work on regional greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. New City of Tucson and Pima County community updates incorporating 2008 data have been released. Additionally, Ms. Cotty has been working with the City of Tucson and the University of Arizona staff to evaluate possible City of Tucson GHG reduction measures.

Paula Bluemer stated that Marana is currently gathering data for conducting a GHG inventory in cooperation with PAG staff.

Wayne Byrd provided a summary of recent, local ozone concentrations for the secondary ozone standard, calculated using the W126 method recommended by the EPA. Based upon these preliminary results, he thought the Tucson area would be nonattainment for the secondary standard. Additionally, based on recent ozone levels, he predicated that Pima County would be nonattainment if the primary standard is set at or below 70 ppb.

Beth Gorman noted that PDEQ has been involved with air quality violations occurring at Asarco Sahuarita mine, resulting from fugitive dust emissions from mine tailing piles. PDEQ issued two

notices of violations (NOV) corresponding to the two separate violations that occurred in late 2009. The 30-day response period for Asarco will expire next week. Epidemiologists will be working with PDEQ to gather data on reported health incidents related to these two high particulate episodes.

Lee Comrie stated that the Air Quality Forum is tentatively planned for late spring/early summer of 2010. If plans for the 2010 Forum do not materialize, the next AQS meeting will be in April 2010.

Prior to the next AQS meeting, members will receive a brief online survey to determine their interests for future AQS meeting topics.

9. Request for Future Agenda Items

No suggestions were offered.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m. The next AQS meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 2010.