



Air Quality Subcommittee

Minutes of May 10, 2011, Meeting

Attendees

Beth Gorman, PDEQ, Chair
Zig Fang, TEP
Deborah Jentoft, PDEQ
Charles Komadina, TEP
Roxanne Linsley, ADEQ
Colleen McKaughan, EPA
Mary Kay O'Rourke, University of AZ
Sherri Zendri, ADEQ

Staff

Lee Comrie
Sue Cotty
Steve Matthews
Ruth Reiman
Claire Zucker

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gorman at 1:40 p.m. and introductions were made.

2. In-Kind Forms

An in-kind form was routed among attendees.

3. Call to the Audience

No comments were offered by the audience.

4. Approval of the of Feb. 8, 2011, Minutes

ACTION: Ms. Gorman requested approval of the Feb. 8, 2011, minutes and the Subcommittee members, by consensus, approved.

5. Announcements/Comments

Announcements were provided to Subcommittee members as part of the meeting packet. Ms. Comrie noted that the American Lung Association released its *State of the Air 2011* report and Tucson was rated the #1 cleanest U.S. city for 24-hour particle pollution. Tucson also was ranked the 3rd cleanest city for annual particle pollution. Additionally, the area's ozone grade improved this year, earning a "C" up from last year's "F" rating. Ms. Comrie mentioned that PAG staff updated the Air Quality Trends poster for 2011 by incorporating 2010 PDEQ air monitoring data. Copies of the poster can be downloaded from PAG's Web site at

<http://www.pagnet.org/Documents/Air/AirQualityTrends2011.pdf>

6. EPA Summary of Regional Issues

Ms. McKaughan gave a summary of the EPA's recent activities and various air quality issues facing Arizona. Some of the key points included:

- The EPA's national budget was cut by 16 percent
- The EPA will issue the revised final ozone standards on July 29, 2011; the compliance schedule will be included in the final rulemaking
- EPA staff is working with the agricultural and construction industries to modify Maricopa County's 5 Percent Plan for the PM₁₀ nonattainment area
- The EPA developed a guidance document for preparing exceptional event rule requests (Guidance on the Preparation of Demonstrations in Support of Requests to Exclude Ambient Air Quality Data Affected by High Winds under the Exceptional Events Rule)
http://www.epa.gov/air/tribal/pdfs/HWDE_Strategy_050211_external.pdf
- EPA staff is working with ADEQ staff to prepare a State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the PM₁₀ nonattainment areas of Douglas-Paul Spur and Nogales
- ADEQ submitted a Regional Haze SIP to EPA in December 2010; it is currently under review by EPA staff
- Sections of Pinal County were designated as nonattainment areas for PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}. The EPA is currently working on redesignating the nonattainment areas and will issue its final decision in June 2011. Pinal County will have until March 2012 to develop SIPs for these areas
- The EPA and Arizona Public Service (APS) have developed a preliminary plan to retrofit the Four Corners' electricity generating units to reduce NO_x emissions. This plan proposes to shut down three generating units and install selective catalytic reduction (SCR) units on the other two units. EPA anticipates finalizing an agreement with APS by December 2011
- The EPA has contracted with economists to investigate the impact of retrofitting the Navajo Generating Station (NGS) units to reduce NO_x emissions. The analysis will focus specifically on the water and energy costs resulting from emission reduction strategies. EPA anticipates releasing a draft proposal in the summer of 2011
- The EPA is developing a coal ash disposal rule for electricity generating units

7. Air Quality Roundtable

Ms. Reiman mentioned that employers are developing their annual travel reduction plans. The annual employee survey was completed in 2010, marking the second year of using the new online format. She is developing a guidance document to provide information on complying with the Travel Reduction Ordinance. Ms. Reiman, in conjunction with Ms. Gorman, conducted several transportation coordinator training sessions over the past five months. Approximately 160 people attended, representing about 180 worksites. PAG's Transportation Reduction Program won the American Advertising Federation's ADDY award for its infomercial and other outreach materials. She noted that Tucson's April BikeFest was a big success.

Ms. Jentoft noted that there are no changes in the monitoring sites and the NCore site continues to operate. PDEQ issued an ozone advisory on May 5, 2011, and a smoke advisory on May 4, 2011. Ms. Jentoft did a preliminary W126 ozone analysis for 2008-2010 data and indicated that Saguaro National Park is probably in compliance with the proposed secondary ozone standard. She will confirm her preliminary analysis using the EPA's Web site tools.

Ms. Cotty noted that the Regional Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Inventory was updated in April 2011, and is posted on PAG's Web site. The inventory was updated using revised vehicle travel data (2005 through 2008) from PAG's transportation planners. As a result of these revisions, transportation and total GHG emissions were lower for the affected years. Consequently, the rate of GHG increase from 1990-2008 declined. She continues to work with the new EPA mobile emissions model, MOVES, which will be used for transportation conformity modeling in March 2012.

Ms. Gorman noted that PDEQ staff is working on an air quality permit renewal for Materion Ceramics (formally Brush Ceramics). PDEQ staff continues their outreach efforts at schools, BikeFest and other public events. PDEQ staff is developing a new Web-interactive site called *EcoKids Club*. Ms. Gorman noted that PDEQ is partnering with several bike shops to provide education on repairs and safe riding habits.

Ms. Comrie discussed the outcome of the AQS online survey. Based on the results, the top five topics of interest are: ozone, particulate matter, emission inventories, health and air quality and regulatory updates. PAG will be working with consultants to develop paved and unpaved traffic counts in early summer.

Dr. O'Rourke mentioned that she and her University of Arizona students are working with PDEQ to update PDEQ's *Air Info Now* Web page.

8. Future Agenda Items

The next AQS meeting is scheduled for Sept. 13, 2011. For the next meeting, Ms. Comrie mentioned that ADEQ staff will be presenting information on border air quality and the Nogales truck retrofit program. A future meeting could include a presentation by the City of Tucson Office of Conservation and Sustainable Development staff on its proposed GHG reduction strategies. Ms. McKaughan mentioned that by September, more information will be available on the new ozone standards and pertinent information could be presented at the meeting.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.