

CLARK COUNTY AIR QUALITY FORUM

MINUTES

July 22, 2009
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

RTC, Room 296
600 S. Grand Central Parkway
Las Vegas, NV

1. **Welcome and Introductions - Adele Malone, NDEP**

The meeting was attended by:

Joe Peltier, NDOT
Dennis Ransel, DAQEM
Rodney Langston, DAQEM
Shannon Rudolph, NDoA
Skip Spilmai, City of Boulder
Steve Dey, DAQEM
Vasant Rajagopalan, DAQEM
Shiang-Yuh Wu, DAQEM
Mark Silverstein, CC Dept. of Aviation
Vic Dugan, ExxonMobil
Robert Tekneipe, DAQEM
Brenda Pohlmann, City of Henderson
Jerry Duke, RTC
Will Cates, DAQEM
Dawn Leaper, DAQEM
David C. Lee, DAQEM
Lewis Wallenmeyer, DAQEM
Cheng T. Shih, City of Las Vegas
Tina Gingras, DAQEM
Colleen Cripps, NDEP
Michael Elges, NDEP
Vickie Rutledge, NDEP
Adele Malone, NDEP

Via telephone:

Karina O'Connor, EPA

2. **Planning Updates - DAQEM**

a. CO: Maintenance Plan; Fuel Rules - Robert Tekneipe, DAQEM

Mr. Tekneipe presented a power point presentation (*see attachment #1*) on the CO Maintenance Plan. In September 2008 submitted to EPA the actual request for re-

designation and maintenance plan. EPA is reviewing the plan and does not see any road blocks, should be completed by the end of August.

The Federal 'Boutique Rule' will be suspended but kept on the books. If rule is deleted, the place holder would be lost, and would not be able to bring it back.

Question asked by the attendees:

1. The question was presented to Karina O'Connor, USEPA: What were you planning to issue at the end of August? Ms. O'Connor answered that they planned to get the proposal signed approving the plan; the proposal to approve the CO maintenance plan; and reduction emission request. The proposal will require a 30 day comments period then finalized by the end of September.

Mr. Tekniepe stated that the Department of Agriculture has set up a workshop for August 26th to discuss the changes before the RVP is ruled.

b. PM: Maintenance Plan - Rodney Langston, DAQEM

Mr. Langston continued with the same power point presentation (*see attachment #1*) Mr. Langston went over the particulate matter status updates: Current 3 year data, Clark County remains in attainment for PM10 and PM2.5 standards. EPA is currently reviewing the PM NAAQS. The 24 hour and annual standards will be tightened. PM Coarse Standard (PMC) may be proposed which falls between PM10 & PM2.5 microns.

Exceptional Events Rule: Relates to current attainment of, maintenance of attainment of PM10 standard. There were two episodes, February 13th and May 21st where the standard was exceeded due to very high winds. Procedures are almost identical to previous procedures under the Natural Events Policy. The public is informed using software which gives them the choice of how they would like to be notified.

PM10 Maintenance Plan needs to demonstrate attainment for a ten year period. Within seven years the Maintenance Plan is required to be updated.

Question asked by the attendees:

1. What is the difference between the two reports? Mr. Langston answered that they are the same.

c. Ozone: Summertime Study; Nonattainment Status (75 & 80 ppb standards); Maintenance Plan – 80 ppb standard - Will Cates, DAQEM

See power point presentation (*attachment #1*). Mr. Cates stated that due to wildfires, previously there has been an increased ozone concentration beyond national ambient air quality standards. In the summer of 2009 geared up to address wildfires again. A sampling is in place. In the event of a wild fire it would be activated. This summer has been relatively quiet with respect to wildfires. PM2.5 sampling is carried out every weekend. However, the wildfire program has not been activated.

They have developed a progression model for evaluation of Exceptional Events like wildfires, and are closing out that project and are in the position to go forward with an evaluation of wildfires in the event we have one.

In 2005 a revision was submitted for a wildfire demonstration event on June 29th and June 30th at that time the EPA did not concur with that demonstration. Since then, that demonstration has been revised with utilizing the progression model. A new revision will be sent within the next couple of months.

With regard to new standard promulgated by EPA in March of 2008, new and old standards have not been violated due to economic downturn (emissions reduction) and there have not been any wildfires. EPA to comment on lawsuit issue with respect to the old standard, EPA on track with implementation rules for the new more stringent standard.

Karina O'Connor, with EPA stated the September date for finalization of the reclassification of Clark County is still on schedule. The lawsuit has been resolved.

Question asked by the attendees:

1. Question to Karina O'Connor: Did you hear anything about changing the standard? Ms. O'Connor said she has not heard anything yet.

3. Mobile Sources Emission Reduction Projects Update - Robert Tekneipe, DAQEM

Mr. Tekneipe gave a power point presentation. (*see attachment #1*) Currently there are two ongoing projects: The vehicle repair program which is funded through DMV. Because of the economic downturn there is a greater demand on this program.

Second, the lawn mower exchange program, given by Randy White (*see attachment #1*) Funding is secured through RTC & NV DOT for diesel retrofit program and truck stop electrification program.

The reason for the delay on the Stewardship agreements is that they are not very familiar with these types of projects; traditionally they are used on road construction projects.

4. Electric Bike Program - Jerry Duke, RTC

Mr. Duke continued with the power point presentation. (*see attachment #3*) The Stewardship program is funded through DOT. RTC anticipates getting this up and running and testing it within their agency in the September time frame, then rolling it out to the jurisdiction within the October time frame. There are five agencies that are going to be involved in the pilot. There will be five bikes per agency. The RTC will provide helmets for the first fifty who sign up, possibly more. Agencies can register online; take training at their desk.

Question from the attendees:

1. How do you deal with maintenance on the bikes?
Mr. Duke answered that the maintenance will be on contract, they will strip out the plain tires and put in gel tires. They will also teach everybody how to put a chain back on. They are electric driven not pedal assist. However, you can pedal, there are up to seven speeds. One battery pack goes up to twenty two miles on a flat surface and goes approximately twenty two to twenty four miles an hour.

5. Regional Haze SIP Update - Adele Malone, NDEP

Ms. Malone gave a power point presentation (*see attachment #2*) on the Regional Haze State Implementation Plan

Question from the attendees:

1. Question to Adele Malone, NDEP: inaudible.
Adele Malone, NDEP: One of the sources is mobile sources and it has to do with catalytic converters, new and improved ones. NOX gets further reduced to ammonia; I believe also waste water treatment plants.
2. Question to Adele Malone, NDEP: inaudible.

6. School Bus Retrofit Program - Adele Malone, NDEP

Ms. Malone stated that the intention of the School Bus Retrofit Program is to reduce emissions in areas of air quality concern and to reduce children's exposure to diesel emissions. School Bus Retrofit Program is the first component in a wider Nevada State Clean Diesel program, the second element is the School Bus Replacement Program. This is funded by a Federal Grant from the Diesel Emission Reduction Act, and funding also provided by the Department of Energy.

Target model years range from 1992 to 2004, they will be retrofitted with either Diesel Oxidation Catalyst or Crank Case Ventilation Filters. There are 15 out of 17 school districts that are interested in participating in the program. The Clark County school district is not participating because they have their own program. Over 500 buses will be retrofitted by the end of the program.

Question from the attendees:

1. Question to Adele Malone, NDEP: Have you heard how much funding will be available? Vickie Rutledge, NDEP for Adele Malone: I did speak to our project officer and they were unsure yet, but they did expect some funding there.
2. Question to Adele Malone, NDEP: Have you ever used the funds in the past or you never put forth projects?

Mike Elges, NDEP for Adele Malone, NDEP: I don't think we've ever directly used the funds before; I can't speak for the Energy Office. Colleen Cripps, NDEP: We've had projects for three years now, the first year the money went to the Energy Office for diesel retrofits the second year was another diesel retrofit project through us, and then we combined that money and are doing the project that Adele (can't hear) and the third year of the funding we received, we're doing school bus replacement.

- 7. Public Input/Discussion**
Items of Interest for Future Meetings

- 8. Wrap Up/Questions**
Next Meeting
The next forum will be in November.