

-- D R A F T¹ --
July 10, 2019
WESTAR Council Meeting
Conference Call Summary

The monthly WESTAR Council call began at 1:00 pm PDT/2:00 pm MDT/3:00 pm CDT.
Council members and delegates present included:

AK-Alice Edwards, Molly Birnbaum, Barbara Trost
AZ-
CA-Tina Suarez-Murias
CO-Garry Kaufman
HI-Marianne Rossio
ID-Tiffany Floyd
MT-Dave Klemp
NV-
NM-Liz Busby-Kuehn
ND-David Stroh
OR-Ali Mirzakhali
SD-Kyrik Rombaugh
UT-Bryce Bird
WA-Kathy Taylor
WY-Nancy Vehr
WESTAR-Mary Uhl, Tom Moore, Jeff Gabler

Agenda:

1. Agenda for fall business meeting-each state votes for top three priorities from attached list (Mary Uhl)
2. GAO inquiry to WESTAR regarding air monitoring and use of satellite data by air agencies, list of questions attached (Mary Uhl)
3. Invitation for cross-border collaboration with Canada to WESTAR, LADCO and NESCAUM (Mary Uhl)
4. Regional haze analysis update on state 4-factor analyses (David Stroh, ND and Tom Moore)
5. Discussion of recent federal rules-ACE and "Once in-Always in" (All)
6. Other items as time and interest permits

Meeting Minutes:

¹ Draft will be considered final upon review and approval by a majority of the members, typically on the next monthly conference call.

1. Agenda for fall business meeting-each state votes for top three priorities from attached list (Mary Uhl)
States indicated which topics were highest priority for the fall business meeting agenda. Topics with the most interest include the OAQPS update, WESTAR prescribed fire workshop recommendations, EPA training initiatives, Exceptional Events, Regional Haze, Energy Efficiency, Residential Wood Heating, and citizen monitoring.

2. GAO inquiry to WESTAR regarding air monitoring and use of satellite data by air agencies, list of questions attached (Mary Uhl)
Mary asked for input from states on responses to questions from GAO. Ali mentioned that EPA could provide training to states. Alice mentioned that the challenges with satellite/sensor data is the communication of the data to the public. Barbara Trost noted that the quality of satellite data is not consistent across the west, particularly in Alaska, some tools may not be applicable to Alaska.

3. Invitation for cross-border collaboration with Canada to WESTAR, LADCO and NESCAUM (Mary Uhl)

Mary Uhl summarized an email from Tracey Inkpen at Environment and Climate Change Canada. Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) is responsible for leading the federal government's actions to collaborate on air quality. Canada considers their regional airsheds as broad geographic areas that encompass a number of air zones and may cross provincial/territorial and international boundaries. The purpose of airsheds is to provide a framework to coordinate actions to address transboundary air pollution (inter-provincial, inter-territorial and international), based on a common understanding of regional air quality, cross-boundary issues and existing management actions. ECC Canada is interested in MJOs and opportunities for cross-border collaboration.

Dave Klemp, Tiffany Floyd, Kathy Taylor and David Stroh noted that MT, ID, WA and ND are interested, Alaska is also interested. Alaska has done cross-border collaboration before.

4. Regional haze analysis update on state 4-factor analyses (David Stroh, ND and Tom Moore)

Dave noted that states need to be communicating with sources that may affect regional haze across the west. For North Dakota, the process has taken a significant amount of time. Input from sources is necessary for the western modeling to succeed. Dave urged states to consistently communicate with sources that will need to complete the 4-factor analysis. Sources need to consider the technically-feasible controls that are available in the next couple of months. Air directors need to see where their state is at in regard to completing the 4-factor analysis. It has been helpful to ND sources to understand the timeline for the WRAP analysis; this has helped the sources to provide the necessary information to ND in a timely manner.

Dave Klemp asked if the issue is consistency or whether the communication is occurring; Dave Stroh thinks it is both. Some states may not have yet communicated with their sources and it is important for all sources to hear the same message.

5. Discussion of recent federal rules-ACE and "Once in-Always in" (All)
ND will be greatly affected by ACE; might be good to have this on the agenda spring 2020 business meeting agenda. Nancy noted the 111D changes are still being analyzed by WY.
6. Other items as time and interest permits
Nancy Vehr noted that Cara Keslar may be able to arrange a field trip to a monitoring site for the fall business meeting.

The call duration was 37 minutes.