



## **2023 Four Corners Air Quality Group Meeting Summary**

**November 7-8**

**November 7th: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**November 8th: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

**Location: In-Person at the  
La Plata County Fairgrounds and Event Center  
2500 Main Ave., Durango, CO 81301  
and Via Zoom**

### *Participants*

*Arizona Public Service  
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
Colorado State Climate Center  
New Mexico Environment Department  
New Mexico State Climate Center  
Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency  
Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Public Service Company of New Mexico  
Southern Ute Indian Tribal Agency  
United States (U.S.) Bureau of Land Management  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
U.S. Forest Service  
U.S. National Park Service  
Utah Department of Environmental Quality  
Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Agency  
Western States Air Resources Council & Western Regional Air Partnership*

**2023 Four Corners Air Quality Group Meeting**  
**Day 1 Agenda: Tuesday, November 7, 2023**  
***Climate Actions, Lessons Learned from Partners***

1. The meeting was opened with a welcome from Colorado Air Quality Control Commissioner Patrick Cummins, Kirby Olson from NMED, Abby Fulton from EPA's Region 8 Air Program, Mark Jones from NMED, and Megan McCarthy representing Colorado's Air Division. Megan McCarthy provided a brief land acknowledgment to recognize the historic indigenous occupation and use of the land on which the meeting was held.
  - [Colorado Air Quality Control Commission](#)
  - [Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment](#)
  - [New Mexico Environment Department](#)
  - EPA Region [6](#), [8](#), [9](#)
  - Annual meeting documents prepared by the Four Corners Air Quality Group included:
    - i. [2023 Four Corners Air Quality Related Studies/Research](#)
    - ii. [2023 4CAQG Agency Updates](#)
2. Janice Archuleta and Arlyssia Sells, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, opened with a "Welcome to the Four Corners Region" and provided information about the Tribe's air quality monitoring projects.
  - [Ute Mountain Ute Air Quality Program](#)
3. Garry Kaufman, CDPHE, Kirby Olson, NMED, and Becky Close, UDEQ presented on the different States' Climate and Air Quality Regulatory Landscapes.
  - [Colorado Climate Air Quality Regulatory Update](#)
  - [New Mexico Air Quality Regulatory Landscape](#)
  - [Utah Climate and Air Quality Regulatory Landscape](#)
4. Overviews of local climate change impacts for New Mexico and Colorado were provided by Dave DuBois, New Mexico State Climate Center, and Russ Schumacher, Colorado Climate Center.
  - [Recent Climate Events Across Northwest New Mexico in 2023](#)
  - [Climate and Climate Change in Colorado](#)
5. The discussion of state policy continued after lunch, and additional presentations were provided on the lessons learned/challenges from recent climate action by Colorado and New Mexico. Megan McCarthy and Garry Kaufmann, CDPHE, and Michelle Miano and Neal Butt, NMED, presented.
  - [Colorado's Climate and Air Quality Policy and Regulatory Actions, Challenges and Lessons Learned](#)
  - [Climate Pollution Reduction Act - NMED Update](#)
  - [DERA Grant Funding and VW Settlement Funding - NMED Update](#)
6. Next, Justina George and Suresh Chaudhary, Navajo Nation EPA, presented on the Navajo Nation's EPA Minor Source Program Regulations.
  - [Navajo Nation Minor Source Regulations](#)

7. The final presentations of the day focused on clean energy and resource sustainability efforts. Claudette Horn, Public Service Company of New Mexico Resources, presented on the status of the San Juan Generating Station decommissioning and PNM Resources sustainability efforts.
  - [San Juan Generating Station Update and PNM Sustainability](#)
8. Finally, the 4 Corners Air Quality Group heard from Eric Massey, Arizona Public Service, who presented on Arizona Public Service Company of New Mexico's Clean Energy Commitment.
  - [APS Clean Energy Goals](#)
9. The group concluded the day with a general question and answer session about the presentations throughout the day. Afterward, Megan McCarthy and Mark Jones wrapped up the day and thanked everyone for their attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm MDT on November 7, 2023.

**2023 Four Corners Air Quality Group Meeting**  
**[Day #2 Agenda: Wednesday, November 8, 2023](#)**  
***Monitoring Trends and Air Pollution Mitigation Efforts***

1. The second day of the meeting began by jumping right into the day's welcome with Jojo La from Colorado's Environmental Boards and Commission. In her welcome, Ms. La highlighted the knowledge and information shared on day 1. Kirby Olson, New Mexico Environment Department, and Abby Fulton, EPA Region 8, also provided welcomes and shared their gratitude for the presentations and discussions on day 1. Then Megan McCarthy, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and Mark Jones, New Mexico Environment Department, kicked off day 2.
2. After the welcome, the group started with a series of presentations and discussions on Four Corners air monitoring trends and analysis. The series of presentations started with a general overview of the Four Corners region by Suzy Apodaca, EPA Region 6. Will Vicars, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, also provided an overview of monitoring in Colorado and New Mexico.
  - [Four Corners Area O3/NO2/CO Monitoring Overview](#)
  - [CO and NM Monitoring](#)A question and answer session then followed the presentations.
3. Next up, a presentation on [Community Air Monitoring in the TriChapter Region of the Navajo Nation](#) was provided by Brandon Velivis.
4. After the discussions on monitoring, a series of presentations were provided on air pollution health impacts and mitigation efforts. The presentations started with Abby Fulton, EPA, and Armando Paz, New Mexico Environment Department, on ozone and particulate matter (PM) health effects.
  - [EPA - Ozone and Particulate Matter Health Effects](#)
  - [NMED - Ozone and PM Health Effects](#)
5. A final panel discussion was held to discuss actions to mitigate air pollution affecting the Four Corners region. The panel included individuals from the New Mexico Environment

Department, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Tribes, and EPA. A question and answer session was also held to conclude the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am MDT on November 8, 2023. Registrants: Approximately 135 in-person and virtual attendees.

A field trip was hosted by the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe in the afternoon.

### **List of Agency and Organizational Acronyms**

**APS** - Arizona Public Service

**CDPHE** - Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

**EPA** - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**NMED** - New Mexico Environment Department

**NNEPA** - Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency

**NPS** - National Park Service

**PNM** - Public Service Company of New Mexico

**UDEQ** - Utah Department of Environmental Quality

**USFS** - U.S. Forest Service

**WESTAR** - Western States Air Resources Council

**WRAP** - Western Regional Air Partnership