

**Four Corners Air Quality Task Force Meeting**  
**Wednesday August 8, 2007, 1:00 – 6:00pm**  
**Durango, Colorado**

**Attendees: see separate list on Meetings page**

**PLENARY SESSION**

**Welcome**

Mike Silverstein, CDPHE, thanked everyone for their attendance, their continued contribution to the Task Force, and for their concern for air quality in the Four Corners.

**Agenda Review & Summary of Public Comments** (see separate link to PPT)

Rebecca Reynolds, facilitator and project manager, welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda. She also gave a brief summary of the public comment process, which was successful in generating input from 28 individuals representing a good cross-section of agencies, industry, citizens, and others.

**Update: Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Proposed Changes**

Mike Silverstein (CDPHE) and Cindy Cody (EPA Reg 8) gave brief presentations on ozone issues. Mike focused his remarks on Colorado's recent violation of the standard on the Front Range and implications of this for the state and the Four Corners area. Cindy focused on the new proposed standard.

Mike Silverstein, CDPHE (see separate link to PPT)

CO was non-attainment for the 8-hour ozone standard, which was "deferred" because of the Early Action Compact.

CO got a new exceedance this summer.

The value is still being verified, but is likely to put the Region (the entire seven-county area from Castle Rock to Ft. Collins) in non-attainment status.

If non-attainment is determined, then a new State Implementation Plan (SIP) will be required with more stringent controls.

Cindy Cody, US EPA Region 8, Air Quality Planning and Management Unit

Ozone is becoming a national issue. A wake up call...forcing us to look more broadly at air quality.

The current 8-hr ozone standard is 0.08 ppm

The new standard proposed in June 2007: 0.070-0.075 ppm

Why: Studies show that ozone is more detrimental than we had thought.

When the 1997 standard was proposed, it took four years to get implemented. So even if EPA establishes a new standard, it is likely that it will be challenged in the courts, etc.

The public still can comment on the new standard through October: go to [www.EPA.gov](http://www.EPA.gov); <http://www.epa.gov/air/ozonepollution/naaqsrev2007.html>

If the new standard goes into effect, it is likely that parts of the 4C area may be non-attainment for ozone.

**Panel: States, Tribes & Federal Climate Change Activities (Federal Agencies and Four Corners States and tribes) (see separate PPTs)**

Since the issues surrounding greenhouse gases and climate change are taking an increasingly prominent place in public discussion, the Task Force coordinators thought an update from the agencies involved in the Task Force on what they are each doing in this area would prove interesting. The panel on Climate Change was made up of representatives from CO, NM, SUIT, NPS, BLM, EPA Reg 8, USDA-FS. Each member had his/her own PPT presentation. These presentations are posted on the meeting web site.

Pat Cummins with the Western Governor's Association, (WGA) commented briefly on the Western Climate Initiative.

***The Western Climate Initiative (WCI)***

The Western Climate Initiative is a collaboration launched in February 2007 between the Governors of Arizona, California, New Mexico, Oregon and Washington to meet regional challenges raised by climate change. WCI is identifying, evaluating and implementing collective and cooperative ways to reduce greenhouse gases in the region. In April 2007, the Premier of British Columbia joined the Initiative. Other states and provinces are joining as observers.

Through WCI, the partners will set an overall regional goal by August 2007 for reducing greenhouse gas emissions; by August 2008 they will also complete design of a market based mechanism to help achieve that reduction goal.

**Work Group Breakouts (5)**

(See separate agendas)

The work groups met separately to discuss the recently received public comments as well as other issues related to finalizing their sections in the Report. Notes from these sessions are posted on the work group pages of the website.

**Return to Plenary**

**WORK GROUP REPORT BACKS (see work group notes as posted on the work group web pages)**

**MONITORING – Gordon Pearce representing Terry Hertel**

CDPHE started ozone sampling. Discussed this at some length. It is a beginning, more refined studies will be possible as we go.

\$380,000 for monitoring in Western, Colorado, but no full-time employee, so they are still figuring this out.

They will add in comment on above.  
More graphs on Koren's material.  
Can Erich's full presentation be added in the Appendix?  
Reviewed comments – nothing significant – have identified work group members to address them.  
Next Conference Call: Wednesday, August 15th, 2pm  
November Presenters: Erich & Koren  
Conf Calls to be scheduled

### **CUMULATIVE EFFECTS – Mike George**

Not much new – all revision.  
Have one area that we are having 2<sup>nd</sup> thoughts...if they come up with anything new it is due by 8/22.  
Pull together more documentation on the response to “tagged items.”  
Also new table with numbers is available for any mitigation option by August 22.  
Next Conference Call: Monday, August 20th, 10am  
Finalize November Presenters: Doug Blewitt and ???

### **OIL & GAS – Jen Mattox**

Three new papers.  
Some revisions.  
Cumulative Effects comments: met jointly with the CE work group. Contact Doug B prior to August 19<sup>th</sup> if anyone has input.  
Next Conference Call: Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1-3pm  
November presenters: Dave Brown and Jan Rees.

### **POWER PLANTS – Mark Jones**

Reviewed comments  
Not many new...nuclear paper will be added.  
Looked at Biomass Option  
Preface: a few lines will be added  
Decided to reference comments in the papers  
Discussed CE section: will do a conference call with them if needed  
Next Conference Call: Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 4pm  
November presenters: Marilyn Brown and Maureen Gannon

### **OTHER SOURCES - Rita Trujillo**

A couple of new papers - due by August 22  
Most everything was revisions  
Met with Power Plants on EERE  
Some revisions will be done  
No conf calls scheduled.  
November presenters: Bev Warburton & Ethan Hinkley

**Conclusion**

In closing the meeting, Rebecca reminded the group that the next Task Force meeting will be held on Wed., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> in Durango. She asked everyone to please RSVP to Mark Jones for this session so we are sure to have a good head count for the last meeting.

**ADJOURN: 6:00 pm**