

Four Corners Air Quality Task Force Meeting
August 8, 2007 Fort Lewis College
Monitoring Group Notes

Gordon Pierce Presiding in the absence of Terry Hertel
Notes by Sylvia Oliva

In attendance were Brenda Sakizzie and Michael King of the Southern Ute Tribe; Erich Fowler, La Plata County Resident; Ted Mueller, citizen; Koren Nydick, Mountain Studies Institute; Judy Schuenemeyer, LWV Cortez; Mary Lou Asbury, LWV Cortez; Gordon Pierce, CDPHE; Sylvia Oliva, Mesa Verde NP; Erik Aaboe, NMED

- Gordon announced the passive ozone study mandated by the State Legislature, a one month study which may become the first of several years. Gordon put the project together within one month, the quickest start being to contact volunteers from the Community Collaborative Rain Hail and Snow, CoCoRaHS (.org). There are 19 on the Front Range, 17 on the Western Slope and 12 in SW Colorado. There is one collocated site at each of the three areas: a double filter sample placed near a 24/7 ozone station. The Mesa Verde National Park ozone station is the collocated site for SW Colorado.
- The goal of the passive monitors is to compile data with respect to continuous ozone monitoring stations and to issue a report. The project is in response to oil and gas areas of the Front Range being in ozone violation, and to community concern on the Western Slope and Southwest.
- Though Gordon did not have the legislative particulars (i.e. bill number) he did find out that Colorado State did approve of 3 active ozone stations (24/7) and three VOC stations to be located in Colorado's oil and gas area; and \$380,000 to be used for "Western Slope Monitoring."
- Sylvia was rather perturbed to find that calculations for Mesa Verde ozone would be out of compliance if the new National Standard were set at 70. This is not in accordance with her admittedly casual estimates.
- The group considered and agreed upon Win Wright's request to insert Mesa Verde NP scatter plots that he drew up for NADP data (acid wet deposition) and MDN data (mercury wet deposition).
- The conference call scheduled for Wednesday August 15, 2 PM will address Scott Clow's comment on uranium activity in SE Utah with a heads up on radiation monitoring; a response to BP offering collaboration on IMPROVE monitoring data – yet to be written by Sylvia; and another item or two.
- Gordon will insert a new comment in the task force report with respect to new air quality monitoring funds for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (did I get that right?).
- There was common group agreement to include Erich Fowler's highly selected air quality/visibility photos into the task force report.

Summary of Monitoring Breakout – 8/8/07

1. Overview of passive ozone sampling being conducted by CDPHE. Monies being used were approved by Colo. Legislature and should be available next year for more work.
 - a. 3 areas of Colorado: NE, W, SW.
 - b. 12 locations in SW Colorado.
 - c. 1-month study with passive filter change-outs every other day.
 - d. SW area to start 8/7/07.
 - e. Request made to develop a press release for local newspapers.
 - f. Request from Koren to maybe add a passive site at Molas Pass, which is high altitude. Problem would be to get someone to change out samples every other morning. Also kind of late to get going on it. Maybe next year?
 - g. Gordon will write up an addition to go in the report under ozone monitoring recommendations to explain what is being done.

2. Comments on Monitoring Section:
 - a. BP comment: We agree it would be nice, but this is more than the group had time to do. (Sylvia will write up the response.)
 - b. Hoadley comment #1: Putting site names on wind/pollutant rose maps makes them too cluttered. Please refer to maps preceding the rose maps that show the sites and names. (Gordon will write up the response.)
 - c. Hoadley comment #2: We will find out more on the Navajo site and address more clearly. (Gordon will write up the response.)
 - d. Hoadley comment 3: We will correct the typo. (Gordon will write up the response.)
 - e. Jones comment (for Roy Paul): There is ozone monitoring in Western Colorado, and in SW Colorado (which is this area of interest). There are also ongoing studies in Western Colorado. (Gordon will write up the response.)
 - f. Hoadley comment #4: The table in the actual document is okay. There was likely a glitch in opening the on-line comment version. (Gordon will write up the response.)
 - g. Hoadley comment #5: The table in the actual document is okay. There was likely a glitch in opening the on-line comment version. (Gordon will write up the response.)
 - h. Hoadley comment #6: Mercury will be clarified. Weiminuche was used as an example. Other areas will be listed in the report. (Koren will write up the response.)

3. Comments on Power Plant Section: Erich had made a comment in the Power Plant section that mentions monitoring (mitigation option #29). He will look back at just what he meant and we will discuss on a conference call.

4. Other:
 - a. Win Wright (not present) sent additional graphs that he felt should be included in the sulfate/nitrate recommendations. These would bolster the section up and provide more/better trend information. The group agreed. Koren will add these in.
 - b. The currently operating Uranium mill in Blanding, UT was brought up as an issue from someone (through Erich). This is also the first comment in the Other Sources comments list. There is also a proposed uranium mill near Naturita, CO. There was debate on whether a recommendation on radionuclide monitoring should be added or not. This will be discussed further on a conference call.
5. The request was made to add all of Erich's visibility photo presentation into an appendix in the final report. The group agreed it would be nice, if possible. After discussion with Rita, the electronic size may be a problem, but she will look into it.
6. Anecdotal comments/information: Not discussed due to time constraints.
7. Conference call: Set for Wed. 8/15 at 2:00.
8. Presentation: Will work on later via conference calls. Koren and Erich are still planned to do.