

Four Corners Air Quality Task Force
Power Plants Work Group Session
February 7, 2007
3:00 pm – 5:15 pm

Joint Session with Other Sources Work Group

***Other Sources Work Group met w/Power Plant Work Group in Colorado Rm for 1st hour of session**

Participants: Rita Trujillo; NMED-AQB; Mark Jones, NMED-AQB; Maureen Gannon, PNM; Mike Farley, PNM; Dave Ruger, Honeywell; Kris Dixon, Concerned Citizen; Bill Green, NMED-AQB; Wilson Laughter, NNEPA; Mark McMillian, CDPHE; Bill Hagler, NMUSA; Leona Conger; LWV – La Plata County ; Marilyn Brown, LWV; Jack Schuenemeyer, Southwest Statistical Consulting; Jeanne Hoadley; US Forest Service; Brett Francois, SJBHD; Kim Livo, CDPHE; Ethan Hinkley; Southern Ute Environmental Program; David LeMoine, Concerned Citizen; Kelly Palmer; US Forest Service/BLM; George Sievers, Concerned Citizen; Stacey Simms; American Lung Association of Colorado; Don Anderson, Concerned Citizen; Lori Goodman, Dine Care; Pat Sharpe

Open Work Group for Questions and Comments. Discuss 4CAQTF FAQs

The meeting started with an open forum to discuss FAQs & field other questions and concerns. These are presented in Q&A format below.

Q: *How closely is the state monitoring PNM on stack upgrades?*

A: PNM makes quarterly reports to NMED regarding progress on their compliance schedule. They are currently on schedule with construction on the unit 4 baghouse scheduled for October 31m 2007. Unit 3 will be done by next spring with testing on unit 4 to begin about January 1, 2008.

Q: *What % of mercury reduction is expected from the upgrades?*

A: We won't know for sure until after testing. Between 60-70% reduction (600-900lbs) is expected but it could be as high as 90%.

Q: *What is meant by public comment period?*

A: Anyone can comment on the mitigation options at any time but so far this has been a formalized process of commenting within the document. The public comment period will target non-task force members and anyone, anywhere can comment on the draft report without inserting directly into the document.

Q: *How will word get out to the public that the comment period is open?*

A: There was considerable discussion and brainstorming around this question. Some of the possible solutions include:

- ads in the local papers
- public service announcements
- American Lung take action notices
- League of Women Voters network
- Mark can identify a subset of people to send Press Releases to their contacts
- POG will address marketing strategy

need to include text of PR in e-mail rather than a link.

Q: *What happens after the report goes to the regulatory agencies?*

A: States will evaluate the feasibility of implementing various mitigation options and may work with local governments as required. Follow up meetings will be held to report back on what agencies are doing.

Q: *What if it becomes political?*

A: Agencies will have to assess where they can get the most bang for the buck and which options are most feasible politically. Processes are in place to promulgate rules and regulations and this includes comment and participation by the public to help influence outcomes. With potential strengthening of Ozone standards the area may be in violation and it will then become a State Implementation Plan (SIP) issue. We may need to strategize for after the Task Force report is done. The November meeting would be a good time to discuss this.

Q: *How can the public become more informed about the science behind cleaner energy in order to make informed choices about options for new power plants?*

A: This information can be found in the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit under the Best Available Control Technology (BACT) analysis. There is also information about Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) technology in the Task Force draft mitigation options.

Q: *Does anyone here know the major emissions for the three Four Corners Power Plants, current and proposed?*

A: This can be found in the facility data table on the website.

Q: *Is it within the scope of the task force to write up an option to collect data on asthma rates, etc?*

A: Nothing is outside the scope of this group. We look forward to including your option in the report.

Q: *Why doesn't the Environ report include Power Plants?*

A: Because the agencies already have this information as part of their emissions inventory.

Q: *How will the EPA use the Task Force report in development of Federal Implementation Plans (FIPs) for Tribes that do not have Tribal Implementation Plans (TIPs)?*

A: EPA will have the same option as the States to consider the options presented and determine whether implementation would be feasible and effective.

Q: *During the Desert Rock hearing EPA said by law they can allow another Power Plant because the air is clean enough. The monitors they used were in Albuquerque and Bloomfield. How can we get monitors closer to the Desert Rock proposed location?*

A: Under current standards and with current monitoring there are no violations of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards in this area. The monitoring group is looking at where there may be gaps and will make recommendations on new or repositioned monitors. EPA is making changes to monitoring protocols for Particulate Matter (PM), this may affect current monitoring due to changes in funding.

If standards are exceeded new restrictions will apply so there is some concern about balancing the representativeness of monitors against the impacts to the population. The states want to know where there is a problem and get monitors out there but budget constrains and EPA budget cuts limit the number of monitors that can be put out there. Monitoring data from the Navajo Nation, and the states are all available online.

Review of Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy/Conservation Documents

Review the Documents for completeness and accuracy. Record changes.

We inventoried the mitigation options submitted in Round 2: EEREC. And we showed people how they were organized and highlighted a few of the options. We asked the work group to please review the options. Because of the good discussion documented above there was not very much time to discuss individual mitigation options. However, several new options have been suggested around energy efficiency and renewable energy. These include:

1. Smart Meters – Maureen, Marilyn and Pat Sharpe

Action item: Maureen to lead drafting team for this option

2. Develop/implement standards for energy & natural gas sources to be used in 4 Corners Area, akin to Standards CA developed for imported energy – Don Anderson

Action item: Don to lead drafting team for this option

*A complete new mitigation option on Renewable Energy Credits was submitted by Mark M. Mitigation Option: “The Use and Credit of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in the Environmental Permitting Process”

Action item: Mark to distribute Mark M’s draft to Power Plant Work Group for comments / expansions

*New Review submitted by Don S., NPS

Power Plant Work Group Session:

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Presentation: The Chemistry of Clean Coal by Bill Green, NMED – AQB

See Handout “Chemistry of Clean Coal” also available online at 4C Power Plants Work Group page http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/aqb/4C/powerplant_workgroup.html

Introduced Bill Green, Bill Green is with the NMED-AQB

Bill Green has worked for the NM AQB for five years as a permitting specialist. Previously:

1. Operated my own company making custom electronic circuits and components.
2. Was Vice President of the Research Division of Methode Electronics in Chicago
3. Assistant Lab Manager for Sanford Corporation in Chicago where I achieved my most recognizable success when I formulated the inks for Sanford's Sharpie Marker.

He holds a degree in Chemistry from the University of Iowa and a MBA from Keller Graduate School of Management.

Bill suggested that Clean Coal technology could use political support and push to be realized. We also discussed need for education and outreach on this topic

Work Plan Development, Brainstorm Options for Round 3: Future Power Plants

- a. IGCC
- b. outreach and education on clean coal technologies
- c. Clean Coal technology incentives

Not enough time to Determine drafting teams, and drafting team leads & establish deadlines. This task is allocated for a special conference call to be held Feb 14, 2007 4-5.

Go Over Power Plant Work Group Mitigation Option Tracking Table

- New Mitigation Option Tracking table posted on Power Plant Work Group Page, http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/aqb/4C/powerplant_workgroup.html, under ‘Working Documents.’
- Tracking table lists all mitigation options that have been brainstormed & status.

Please Review of Draft Task Force Report

Draft Task Force Report Version 5 is available at

<http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/aqb/4C/DraftTaskForceReport.html>

Deadline for Review to go into V.6, Fri April 13, 2007 Draft Task Force Report is March 16, 2007. Please see and follow REVIEW GUIDELINES:

http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/aqb/4C/Documents/Review_Guidelines_updated0806.pdf

**CD's available – contact Mark J or Rita to get a CD with the latest version of the Report
Also Report has been separated into smaller individual category sections for Review purposes**

Next Steps

- Special conference call Feb 14, 2007 to develop work plan for Future Power Plant section, Rd. 3.
- Regular Conference Calls: March 14, 2007 4-5 pm, & April 18, 2007 4-5pm. See Power Plant Work Group Webpage: http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/aqb/4C/powerplant_workgroup.html
- Please send Draft Task Force Report review comments Expansion paragraphs / Disagreeing Opinions to work group coordinators. Deadline for inclusion of comments in this round is March 16
- Next face-to-face meeting in Farmington on May. 9, 2007 at Marriott Convention Center from 1-6 PM.

Misc. issue

Ft. Lewis College – Mountain Studies Institute – Mercury Advisory Committee

-They are putting together a framework for a Mercury Advisory Committee & Mercury Monitoring program in the 4C area. Koren, their leader, is looking for input from the Task Force. And it may be that some of our task force members participate in the committee after our Report is finished. Let me know if you are interested in this. Link added at bottom of our PPWG page

- Don Anderson, Marilyn Brown both expressed interested in MAC

Plan to create some more References/links (on 4CAQTF website) Power Plants webpage

a. DOE Clean Coal and Natural Gas Systems

<http://www.fossil.energy.gov/programs/powersystems/index.html>

b. DOE's FutureGen – Tomorrow's Pollution Free Power Plant

<http://www.fossil.energy.gov/programs/powersystems/futuregen/>

c. US EPA – Clean Air Act Advisory Committee – Advanced Coal Technology Work Group

<http://www.epa.gov/air/caaac/coaltech.html>

Clean Air Act Advisory Committee – Advanced Coal Technology Work Group

On September 14, 2006, the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee recommended the formation of the Advanced Coal Technology Work Group. The Work Group will discuss and identify the potential barriers and potential opportunities to create incentives under the Clean Air Act to the development and deployment of advanced coal technologies.

Health Issues

Several Work group members interested in Follow-up on health issues /// Mercury & Asthma & Other Air Toxics

- A citizen contacted me and asked whether Other Non-Mercury HAPS advisory & call to papers for Hydrogen Fluoride