

ClearView

Air Managers Committee/State Caucus

Regional Haze/WRAP Activity Update

July, 2006

WRAP Workplan and Future Funding Strategy Under Way

The general WRAP strategy for 2007-2008 is to ensure completion of WRAP's technical work within current budget, including some possible follow up technical support if needed to resolve immediate issues once SIPs are submitted. Assuming the states will make their SIP submittal dates, the big issue after that is how and where to find resources to continue technical support activities that are essential to implementation of the regional haze program. Much discussion about how to do this will occur in the next several months. In September, the RPOs will be meeting with EPA and several states to address this. The WRAP board will also meet on September 13-14 to review and approve the workplan.

IMPROVE Network Reductions Proposed

The IMPROVE Steering Committee has proposed a prioritized list of possible IMPROVE site decommissioning in response to as much as a 15% reduction in monitoring support from EPA starting with the FY2007-2008 federal budget. Users have been asked to provide site-specific comments to the Steering Committee, including factors not used in the analysis that would bear on any final priority. There has been much attention from individual states and tribes on this list, and a lot of discussion about the importance of the IMPROVE monitoring for the ongoing requirements of the regional haze program. See the report and proposed list at:

<http://www.wrapair.org/forums/aoh/meetings/060726den/IMPROVEsiteReductionPlanPresentation1.ppt>

Comments are due on August 15.

July WRAP Technical Status Report

The July Technical Status Report is available at:

http://www.wrapair.org/forums/toc/documents/060515WRAP_TechStatus_Report.pdf. This quarterly report provides updates on work accomplished to date, and completion dates of major technical work projects underway. The report also provides a summary of the information portals on the WRAP website.

Highlights from July include:

- Continuing development of the Technical Support System (TSS) and the webpage, <http://vista.cira.colostate.edu/wraptss/>
- A proposed alternate calculation of Natural Conditions, using the revised IMPROVE light extinction equation is available. Use of an alternate method to the EPA default method is allowable, if it will result in better estimates. The revised light extinction equation was approved by IMPROVE steering committee. The analysis of natural conditions using the new equation was conducted by the Inter-RPO Monitoring and Data Analysis Discussion Group, which believes the new estimates are more useful, complete and representative than the old default natural conditions estimates. See: "*Natural Haze Levels II: Application of the New IMPROVE Algorithm to Natural Species Concentrations Estimates*" [PDF](#) or [PPT](#) presented at the Attribution of Haze Workgroup meeting in July.

Alaska Representative Communities Emission Study completed

The long-awaited Alaska Representative Communities Emission Study was completed. The purpose of the work was to characterize emissions from a representative sample of 13 small communities in Alaska, to enable initial emissions estimates for other communities without the need to do detailed emissions inventories. Included in the findings was that as much or more wood burning occurs in summer as in winter, due to summer campfires. Also, fugitive dust from motor vehicle use on unpaved streets is a big source category. The study also provided some lessons about conducting community surveys and other data gathering techniques. Also important is the need to schedule feedback to each community, with the findings of the surveys. See the report and presentation at:

http://wrapair.org/forums/ef/meetings/060712m/0607_AK_Rep_Comm_EI_Project_Update.pdf or
http://wrapair.org/forums/ef/meetings/060712m/0607_AK_Rep_Comm_EI_Project_Update.ppt

WRAP Comments on Proposed EPA Headquarters Guidance on Consultation

EPA published draft proposed headquarters guidance to regions on meeting consultation requirements in SIPs and TIPS. The Air Manager's committee and the Implementation workgroup developed and submitted comments. The general themes are that the WRAP has a process of consultation that will satisfy the rule requirements and

suggests that additional headquarters guidance could create unnecessary processes. Comments on the draft guidance are due in early August. [\(Click Here\)](#) for the draft guidance. [\(Click Here\)](#) for the WRAP comments.

Training scheduled for October or November on TSS

The Attribution of Haze II report and roll-out of the TSS is scheduled now for October 13. One or more training sessions for plan writers will be scheduled shortly thereafter. The training is expected to be “hands-on” on-line, with participants using their own workstations. It is expected that the timing will coincide with several state drafts of Class I area ‘profiles’, or descriptions of current and projected visibility assessments, likely sources, etc. Stay tuned.

RFP for Tracking SIP Development for Tribes

The Tribal Data Development Work Group (TDDWG) has just issued a request for proposals to assist tribes to track progress on SIPs and FIPs, and to identify and analyze potential issues of interest of tribes. This project was described several months ago, and received general support from states as a means to flag potential tribal concerns early in their SIP processes. Here is the Background statement from the RFP: See the RFP at: [PDF](#)

IWG Webpage revisions under development

The WRAP staff has instituted some modifications to the IWG webpage as a means to:

- Track states’ progress in developing their individual SIPs
- To post the essential information needed for collaboration and consultation among states and tribes, FLMs and stakeholders
- To provide better assurance of regional consistency of use of WRAP-produced technical data, tool and information.

The “documents” webpage is where drafts of plans, other progress steps can be viewed from a single access point. See the IWG webpage at: www.wrapair.org/forums/iwg/docs.html