

# ClearView

## Air Managers Committee/State Caucus

Regional Haze/WRAP Activity Update  
May-June, 2006

### Hawaii requests WRAP membership

In April, a request from Gov. Lingle of Hawaii was sent to the WRAP co-chairs, Gov. Napolitano and Councilman Irvine, requesting membership in the WRAP. If approved by the current WRAP members, an additional tribal position on the WRAP board is created.

### Fire and Dust Workshop Recap

This workshop, held in Sacramento emphasized what we know about fire, carbon and dust emissions and their effects on regional haze. Also presented was an updated discussion of reports and on-line tools available for evaluating the causes and attributions fire and dust emissions on regional haze in Class I areas. This session follows a similar January workshop held in Tucson on sulfates, nitrates and reasonable progress. See:

<http://www.wrapair.org/forums/ioc/meetings/060110m/index.html>,  
<http://www.wrapair.org/forums/ioc/meetings/060523m/>

### Dust as a Big Component of Regional Haze

A final report of the causes of dust-resultant haze in the western US is now posted on the WRAP web site. The report shows that dust from a variety of local, regional and trans-continental sources is frequently a principal component of haze on 20% worst days. Dust impacts at any one IMPROVE site on any day will vary due to differences in scale, time, proximity and season. Much of the dust would be "natural," but at times, anthropogenic sources can be important, and may be candidates for control measures in selected areas. See the report at:  
<http://coha.dri.edu/dust/index.html>

### Interstate/Tribe, FLM Consultation and Collaborative Approaches discussed by Implementation Workgroup

The Implementation Workgroup has begun review of a draft of a "State-Federal Protocol," that was requested by states and tribes as guidance to meet collaboration requirements of the Regional Haze Rule. The draft protocol developed by the EPA participants on the IWG was discussed at the IWG meeting in May. It is expected to be a WRAP product to facilitate regional consistency among states and tribes in how they interpret and use the underlying technical work in their plans, and provides enough time for review of long-term strategies by

federal land managers. See the draft protocol at: [\(Click Here\)](#). Over the next month or two The IWG will be focused on finalizing the protocol, and begin to address specific Class I areas.

### **Annual Averaging Allowed for "Subject to BART" Determinations**

EPA has proposed a settlement agreement pursuant to a petition the Utility Air Regulatory Group (UARG) for judicial review of the July 2005 revisions to the Regional Haze Rule relating to methods for implementing the BART provisions. The settlement allows use of a Class I area's annual average visibility as the alternative reference point to the average 20% best days for determining that a BART-eligible source is subject to BART. The commonly-used impact threshold is 0.5 deciview. Use of the alternative annual average can cause a source to be dropped from the "subject to BART" designation if its calculated impact is just above the threshold. See the **FR notice** [\(PDF1\)](#), the **proposed agreement** [\(PDF2\)](#), and **joint motion to file the settlement** [\(PDF3\)](#).

### **State Planning Schedules Reviewed**

In order to help states and tribes track their neighbors' planning process steps and facilitate collaboration (See item above), states have been asked to **update their planning schedules**. These will be posted and updated on the WRAP website.

### **BART Clearinghouse Discussed**

In order to assist in BART determinations, WRAP staff has discussed developing a simple BART clearinghouse. The idea is to catalog individual BART determinations for sources subject to BART, and facilitate subsequent determinations.

### **Small Process Boilers exempted from BART-Eligibility**

The EPA Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) has decided that BART Category 22 process boilers, with heat input rates of 250 mmBTU/Hr or less, are not to be considered BART-eligible. It is not clear how many small boilers this decision will impact. EPA is expected to provide more information to regions.