

MEMORANDUM

TO: Pete Lahm, FEJF Co-Chair

FROM: Carl Gossard, NBTT Co-Chair
Darla Potter, NBTT Interim Co-Chair

DATE: July 6, 2000

RE: WRAP – FEJF – Natural Background Task Team Briefing

The Ambient Monitoring and Reporting Forum (AMRF) originally requested that the FEJF develop a methodology to determine the contribution of fire to natural background by December 31, 2000. As a result of that request the FEJF formed a Natural Background Task Team (NBTT) to fulfill FEJF Workplan Task 3.2.2.4.

The NBTT has evaluated the task at hand and decided that workshops will be necessary to obtain wider stakeholder involvement and feedback on the NBTT workproducts. To properly prepare NBTT workproducts for the workshops and conduct meaningful workshops the NBTT has determined that a methodology to determine the contribution of fire to natural background will not be finalized for use by the AMRF until the end of April 2001. A draft schedule is outlined below followed by additional information regarding the workshops' objectives and participants.

The NBTT has estimated that the preparation for and hosting of the two workshops will cost \$50,000. Due to the FEJF budget shortfall for FY00 the FEJF – NBTT is requesting full workshop funding from the Northern Air Manager's.

Schedule

July '00 End of July, Northern Air Managers Funding Decision to FEJF - NBTT

Nov. '00 Beginning of November, NBTT workproducts ready for workshops and AMRF
(to provide some idea of the range of options being considered)

1/24&25/01 "Senior Staffers" Workshop in Denver

3/15/01 "Policy Makers/Opinion Leaders" Workshop

April '01 Middle of April, FEJF approval of NBTT methodology to determine the contribution of fire to natural background to be used by the AMRF

April '01 End of April, FEJF submittal to AMRF of methodology to determine the contribution of fire to natural background

NBTT Workproducts for Workshops

- Range of optional approaches describing the contribution of smoke to natural background visibility conditions.
- Methodologies to classify smoke emissions into broad categories.
- A methodology for tracking and apportionment of smoke emissions into the established categories and progress toward the goal.

The information contained in this memorandum is in the preliminary development stages and is subject to change by the FEJF -- NBTT.

Workshop Objectives and Participants

“Senior Staffers” Workshop, 1/24&25/01 in Denver, CO

Objectives:

- Critique and modify the range of optional approaches prepared by the NBTT describing the contribution of smoke to natural background visibility conditions.
- Critique and modify the methodology to classify smoke emissions into broad categories as prepared by the NBTT.
- Critique and modify the methodology for tracking and apportionment of smoke emissions into the established categories and progress toward the goal.

This is viewed as a large meeting (est. 50-75 people) with senior level personnel participating from various stakeholder groups (industry, environmental organizations, agriculture, tribes, states, federal agencies, etc.) as well as other WRAP Forums and other Regional Planning Organizations.

“Policy Makers/Opinion Leaders” Workshop, 3/15/01 (suggested location Denver, CO)

Objectives:

- Identify the policy implications of the range of optional approaches prepared by the NBTT describing the contribution of smoke to natural background visibility conditions.
- Evaluate and decide on a preferred approach prepared by the NBTT for describing the contribution of smoke to natural background visibility conditions that will affect visibility in Class I areas in the west for WRAP.

This is viewed as a small meeting (est. 15-25 people) using a sector by sector type of approach to target policy makers and opinion leaders from various stakeholder groups (industry, environmental organizations, agriculture, tribes, states, federal agencies, etc.).