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WRAP Board Accepts Policy Proposals for Section 309 Regional Haze Plans

The Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP) Board of Directors met on November 12 and 13 in Tempe, Arizona, to consider a [series of policy recommendations](#) related to regional haze plans being developed by Western states and tribes under Section 309 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Regional Haze Rule.

The policies put forward for Board consideration were developed through a consensus process by WRAP forums and committees which include broad stakeholder representation. While each state and tribe retains its authority to develop its own regional haze plan, the recommendations from the WRAP are designed to help states and tribes write plans that effectively address the regional haze problem in the West and meet the requirements of the regional haze rule.

The reports, presentations, and other information presented at the Board meeting are available at www.wrapair.org. The following is a summary of actions taken by the Board:

- Appointed new state and tribal members to the Initiatives Oversight Committee and Technical Oversight Committee;
- Approved the 2003 Work Plan;
- Accepted, with amendments to address tribal concerns, the Air Pollution Prevention Forum's recommended policy statements regarding renewable energy and energy efficiency;
- Requested a letter from the WRAP to EPA supporting new standards for heavy-duty, nonroad mobile sources;
- Suggested that the WRAP Mobile Sources Forum and Initiatives Oversight Committee discuss with EPA the various options for addressing the mobile source provisions of Section 309 in order to move toward a consensus recommendation on this issue;
- Accepted the recommendations of the Clean Air Corridors working group;
- Accepted the final recommendations of the Fire Emissions Joint Forum concerning enhanced smoke management programs;
- Accepted the Fire Emissions Joint Forum's recommended policy statements concerning annual emissions goals (AEG) for prescribed fire and directed the Forum to submit the final AEG report and the report on fire tracking systems for Board consideration as soon as the Forum completes its work (prior to next Board meeting if possible);
- Heard a presentation on the STIP-II Work Group, which is developing templates for state and tribal regional haze plans under Section 309 of EPA's regional haze rules. [Brian Finneran](mailto:FINNERAN.Brian@deq.state.or.us) (FINNERAN.Brian@deq.state.or.us) of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and [Rosanne Sanchez](mailto:rosanne_sanchez@nmenv.state.nm.us), (rosanne_sanchez@nmenv.state.nm.us) (Pueblo of Isleta) with the New Mexico Environment Department and formerly with the Pueblo Office of Environmental Protection, are providing staff support for the process.
- Set April 2-3, 2003 as the dates for the next Board meeting.

Preceding the Board meeting, the WRAP's Tribal Caucus approved WRAP membership for the Native Village of Shungnak, Alaska. Shungnak will be formally admitted to the WRAP Board at the next meeting.

December 13 Workshop Planned for Economic Analysis of Haze Strategies

The [WRAP Economic Analysis Forum](#) will be hosting a December 13 workshop in Denver to gain stakeholder input on a draft framework for economic analysis of strategies to address regional haze in the West. Ultimately, this economic analysis will provide information to the WRAP and other entities for determining the specific costs, benefits, and distributional aspects of various emission management strategies.

One goal is to provide comprehensive and consistent analysis of the economic impacts of haze-based emission management strategies in the WRAP region. Topics for the workshop include the following:

- Project overview
- Framework elements what to include in the analysis
- Framework methods how to conduct the analysis
- Special topics which parts of the framework warrant further development
- Potential case studies for testing the framework

WRAP stakeholders, especially environmental advocacy groups and industry representatives, are encouraged to attend. Feedback from the workshop will be used to refine the framework and identify a case study for testing the framework. The prime contractor for developing the framework is BBC Research and Consulting of Denver.

The workshop will be from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on December 13 in Denver at the Western Governors' Association offices. This follows the Market Trading Forum meeting at the same location, which ends at 4 p.m. on December 12. A map and directions to the meeting are available at <http://www.westgov.org>. Please RSVP [Lee Alter](mailto:Lee.Alter@westgov.org) at lalter@westgov.org. For more information, contact Jeff Blend at 406-444-6762 or Lee Alter at 303-623-9378 x115.

Comments? Questions?

Comments and questions on The WRAP Sheet are welcomed. Please contact: wrapnews@wrapair.org to request further information. If you have story ideas or other comments, also contact wrapnews@wrapair.org. Thank you.

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Policy Committee Recruiting Business/ Industry, Environmental Members

The WRAP's [Initiatives Oversight Committee](#), which provides guidance and oversight for WRAP forums that are designing strategies and suggesting policies to address regional haze in the West, has openings for a business/ industry representative and an environmental representative. Appointments will span three years, starting January 1, 2003.

The IOC discusses and suggests strategies and policies that are provided to states and tribes to use in meeting the requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Regional Haze Rule. The IOC obtains direction from the WRAP Board of Directors, refers issues to various forums, reviews recommendations from forums, and makes recommendations to the WRAP Board.

Applicants should send a brief letter of interest and a current resume to [Patrick Cummins](mailto:Patrick.Cummins@westgov.org), WRAP Co-director, 1515 Cleveland Place, Suite 200, Denver CO, 80202, or pcummins@westgov.org by December 20, 2002. More information on the WRAP is available from www.wrapair.org or from the Co-directors, Patrick Cummins at the Western Governors' Association, 303-623-9378, or [Bill Grantham](mailto:Bill.Grantham@ntec.org) of the National Tribal Environmental Council, 505-242-2175, bgrantham@ntec.org.

For More Information about The WRAP

The WRAP, a voluntary organization of Western states, tribes and federal agencies, promotes, supports and monitors programs implementing the Regional Haze Rule, including recommendations from the [Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission](#) and other programs that protect visibility throughout the West. For other information about the WRAP or past issues of The WRAP Sheet, visit www.wrapair.org.



Western Regional Air Partnership