

UTAH AIR QUALITY BOARD MEETING
February 3, 2010 – 1:30 p.m.
168 North 1950 West, Room 101
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

FINAL MINUTES

I. Call-to-Order

Ernie Wessman called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

Board members present: Nan Bunker (attendance by phone), Ernie Wessman, Kathy Van Dame, Darrell Smith (attendance by phone), Craig Petersen (attendance by phone), Steve Sands, Joel Elstein, Brent Bradford (attendance by phone), Robert Paine, and Kerry Kelly (attendance by phone)

Excused: Amanda Smith and Cheryl Heying

Executive Secretary: Regg Olsen for Ms. Heying.

II. Comment Letter to the Environmental Protection Agency Region VIII's Proposed Disapproval of Redesignation Requests and Maintenance Plans for Salt Lake County, Utah County, and Ogden City.

Today's meeting is to finalize a comment letter on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region VIII's proposed disapproval of redesignation requests of maintenance plans for Salt Lake County, Utah County, and Ogden City. A draft letter was prepared by DAQ and sent to the Board for review prior to the meeting. Comments were received from some Board members suggesting changes for today's discussion. Mr. Wessman summarized the overall intent of the letter as discussed at the January Board meeting was to express the Board's concern to EPA about the length of time it took to get to the point where EPA was proposing to disapprove, and concern about the general process and the opinion that there seems to be a cooperation situation between EPA and DAQ. This has resulted in a situation of rather than being able to take action early to get problems resolved, we get to this point of years later with a lot of past work done and no clean road map of how to move forward, almost to the point of starting over.

Mr. Wessman introduced public comment from Terry Marasco, a Utah citizen. Mr. Marasco first updated the Board that the Supreme Court has remanded the applications back to Nevada on the Snake Valley pipeline issue. This will likely open the comments and possibly the entire application process. This will also give the Board an opportunity to make comments on potential air quality issues either as a protestant and/or a cooperating agency. Mr. Marasco continued that air quality in Utah is a big problem, both as a health and business issue for the state. He refers to letters and emails between the EPA and DAQ over the years on this issue and that it seems to be an ongoing problem still apparent today. It is Mr. Marasco suggestion that the parties work together and come up with a solution to settle air quality issues.

Board members discussed their goals of this letter and how best to merge the changes suggested by Board members into the drafted letter in a way that would best to present their comments to EPA.

The Board decides to reorganize the letter by opening with the Board's concern of air quality and then move to the progress made on the PM10 in winter events. Talk about the how the relationship and timing could be improved and provide potentially as examples the exceptional events rule and the maintenance and breakdown rule. Another point would be to request a road map and talk about continuing to work together on both the PM10 and PM2.5 issues. Also, the Board would like to reiterate their earlier invitation of working together and having EPA come out and address these issues so that we are on the same page and that we know where we are headed and know what the goals are. It was also agreed that DAQ will restructure the letter as described by the Board today and submit those changes to the Board prior to the next meeting. The Board will hold another telephone conference meeting to finalize the letter on February 16, 2010, at 2:30 p.m. in order to meet the March 1, 2010 deadline for comments.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Minutes approved: March 3, 2010