

MEMO TO: SEMO RPC Air Quality Meeting Attendees
FROM: Dave Grimes
SUBJECT: Meeting Summary
DATE: June 18, 2010

The Air Quality Committee of the Southeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission held a meeting on June 18, 2010 at the American Legion Hall in Perryville. Twenty-one people were in attendance including representatives from local governments, education institutions, economic development organizations, and the private sector. The following is a summary of that meeting.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Albert Fults at 11:10 a.m.

Mr. Fults then asked for brief introductions around the room.

Mr. Fults noted that Stan Payne from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources was present and asked him for an update. Mr. Payne reviewed information that Jeff Bennett, DNR's modeling specialist, had developed in response to a query from Mr. Grimes regarding high ozone levels observed already in 2010. The conclusion drawn by Mr. Bennett was that the high readings were real (i.e. there was no malfunction or false reading involved) and that, moreover, they were not atypical of historical readings for that monitor.

Mr. Payne also reviewed the procedure that will be followed as new ground-level ozone regulations are implemented. He said that DNR intends to follow an abbreviated version of the nonattainment area designation process followed during 2008. He emphasized that the process would be shortened due to EPA deadlines, but that DNR would make all efforts to involve local stakeholders in the process.

Ms. Lachala Kemp, from U.S. EPA briefly reviewed the timelines to be followed under the new ground-level ozone standards and regulations. She said that EPA still anticipated that the new standard would be released by August 31, 2010. She added that the proposed implementing regulations would also be released at that time to expedite local reviews. January 31, 2011 is the target for state recommendations for boundary designations of nonattainment areas under the new standards, with August 31, 2010 as the anticipated date of final EPA designations. Completion of that process would trigger the three year State Implementation Plan development process.

Mr. Mike Jay then began addressing technical questions from the committee. In a wide ranging discussion he reviewed regulatory requirements and received many comments regarding issues specific to the southeast Missouri region and rural areas in general. He explained that in the process of establishing standards, under the Clean Air Act economics were expressly excluded from consideration. He emphasized, however, that when the standards were converted to regulatory requirements economic impacts were considered. He also explained that the requirement for Lowest Achievable Emission Rate (LAER) would be instituted at the same time as an area is designated as a nonattainment area.

David Grimes of the Regional Planning Commission staff then provided a brief update on several items of interest to the committee. He explained that a letter of support had been

sent regarding Mr. Ron Boyer's proposed resolution to be presented to the Missouri Air Conservation Commission. He said that he had attended the meeting and the resolution had not been passed although it was his understanding that a letter had been sent to Missouri's U.S. Senators and Representatives along with the Governor and the Attorney General. He reminded the Air Quality Committee that staff had been seeking funding to support the implementation of the Clean Air Action Plan. Applications to EPA and the U.S. Economic Development Administration had been denied. He mentioned that another EPA program appeared to offer potential for funding and that staff would be preparing the necessary applications. He briefly discussed the "Ozone 101 Webinar" that he had attended and referred the committee members to www.blueskyways.org if they wanted the complete PowerPoint presentations from that webinar. Finally he mentioned that he would be making a presentation to the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry in late July regarding ozone issues and their importance to the area.

State Representative Joe Fallert explained that his proposed resolution, which had been drafted with assistance from some committee members, had failed to pass the house. He explained that he felt strongly enough about this that he had prepared a letter and resolution himself and forwarded them to EPA with copies to his colleagues in the Missouri legislature, and to the Missouri U.S. Congressional delegation. He noted that he had received acknowledgement from EPA and he hoped for similar letters and resolutions to be forthcoming from his colleagues.

Chauncy Buchheit said that he had received a proposal from URS corporation to provide supporting consultation. He said that a final agreement would probably be worked out prior to the next meeting of the Air Quality Committee.

After reviewing the upcoming timeline again Chairman Fults set the next meeting of the Air Quality Committee for September 10, 2010.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.