

-- D R A F T¹ --
May 13, 2020
**WESTAR Council Meeting
Conference Call Summary**

The monthly WESTAR Council call began at 1:00 pm PST/2:00 pm MST/3:00 pm CST. Council members and delegates present included:

AK-Alice Edwards
AZ-
CA-Tina Suarez-Murias
CO-Garrison Kaufman, Gordon Pierce
HI-Marianne Rossio
ID-Tiffany Floyd
MT-Dave Klemp
NV-
NM-
ND-
OR-Ali Mirzakhali
SD-
UT-Bryce Bird
WA-Kathy Taylor, Rob
WY-Nancy Vehr
WESTAR-Mary Uhl, Tom Moore, Bob Lebens, Jackie Gadret, Jeff Gabler

Agenda:

1. EPA's NPRM for COVID-19-related changes to residential woodheating NSPS (Bob Lebens)
2. Regional Haze update (Tom Moore)
3. WRAP Board state member terms, documents attached (Gordon Pierce)
4. Training update-new online learning opportunities (Jeff Gabler)
5. Review attached draft WESTAR letter to ORD regarding development of technical tools for western state air agencies (Mary Uhl and Tom Moore)
6. Other items as time and interest permit

Meeting Minutes:

¹ Draft will be considered final upon review and approval by a majority of the members, typically on the next monthly conference call.

1. EPA's NPRM for COVID-19-related changes to residential woodheating NSPS (Bob Lebens)

EPA announced in early April that the NPRM to allow for a sell-through was being abandoned. On April 30, 2020, EPA sent an NPRM to OMB to allow retailers additional time to sell step 1 woodheating appliances beyond May 15. The NPRM has not been published, but it appears that the idea is to let retailers sell step 1 appliances through November 30, 2020. WESTAR argued in previous comments that retailers have had 5 years to sell step 1 appliances. We anticipate a 45-day comment period and opportunity for public hearing.

HPBA has gained EPA approval to allow retailers to donate step 1 appliances before May 15, 2020 to several nonprofit organizations for installment in homes after May 15. There are a few western groups participating—Alaska Tribal Native Health Consortium, Redfeather Development Group (AZ and NM) and the Nez Perce Tribe (OR, ID and WA). There are also nonprofits in the Appalachian region and Minnesota that may take these stoves.

OECA will release a low-priority enforcement policy by the end of this week for wood heating appliances. Very few states sought delegation of authority for the NSPS, but that option is still available for states.

There is still some lingering litigation on the 2015 NSPS; there have been several extensions granted. The DC Circuit Court of Appeals has set up a briefing schedule that concludes October 5, 2020. A few WESTAR members are engaged in that litigation.

Garry asked if there would be interest in commenting when the proposal comes out. Bob noted there could be 10,000 to 12,000 units in stranded assets at retailers. OECA thought that only 400 units would be available in the donation program.

Ali asked about the donation program and the Nez Perce tribe and noted that Oregon is considering adopting the NSPS as a state rule. Tiffany noted that she will follow up with Julie Simpson to ask about the donation program. Both Oregon and Idaho have changeout programs.

2. Regional Haze update (Tom Moore)

Tom noted that webinar sessions will be held May 20-21 for regional haze modeling and monitoring presentations. There will be a summary overview of the oil and gas and fire and smoke workgroup initiatives. More information is on the WRAP calendar, all are welcome to attend. There will be similar meetings in June and July focused on key planning deliverables.

Finishing up regional haze deliverables by end of July. Several environmental groups have petitioned EPA for reconsideration of the regional haze rule guidance finalized in September 2019. Pages 2-4 has a table citing all the issues; from a regional analysis point-of-view, the WRAP analysis addresses these issues. Tom suggested state regional haze planners examine the petition and use the document to help anticipate questions that will occur during and after the SIP submittal process.

Ali asked what the next step for the petition is. We don't know when EPA might address or resolve this petition. Garry noted that the CAA doesn't have any time requirements for addressing petitions.

3. WRAP Board state member terms, documents attached (Gordon Pierce)
Gordon noted that there are 5 state representatives on the WRAP Board. 3 terms are up at this time; one is occupied by Gordon and he will continue. Danilo Dragoni is stepping down, Bryce Bird will continue for an additional term. Meetings will be first Wednesday of the month at 10 am MT. One additional state representative is needed and a new state co-chair could be elected as well. Nancy Vehr will take over the open position. There was no opposition to this slate of representatives and Gordon continuing as state co-chair.
4. Training update-new online learning opportunities (Jeff Gabler)
Jeff has been working to get some online training up and running for emission capture and gas handling systems, effective permit writing and intermediate permitting. The plan is to hold a pilot with other MJOs to give instructors time to run through courses with about 30 people nationwide before offering these courses again. It appears that intermediate permitting will be the first offering in early June. MJOs will provide technical assistance during the online training. If pilots go well, we'll move on to courses with 50-100 students. Jeff is looking for 5-6 students from WESTAR for the first course. There are still some logistics to be worked through, but we are excited about these opportunities. Nancy asked about inspector training in June in Boise—is this still scheduled? Jeff noted that trainings in June in Alaska requires a quarantine. Boise doesn't have the same restrictions, but Jeff did not know yet whether the Boise training will take place. There is also a training in Nevada that may need to be rescheduled.
5. Review attached draft WESTAR letter to ORD regarding development of technical tools for western state air agencies (Mary Uhl and Tom Moore)
Mary will send the draft letter out with a deadline for comments of May 27. The letter will be recirculated if there are significant edits and changes.
6. Other items as time and interest permit
There were no additional items.

The call duration was 63 minutes.