The monthly WESTAR Council call began at 1:00 pm PDT/2:00 pm MDT/3:00 pm CDT. Council members and delegates present included:

AK—
AZ—Tim Franquist
CA—Ravi
CO—Gordon Pierce, Garry Kaufman
HI—
ID—Tiffany Floyd
MT—Dave Klemp
NV—Danilo Dragoni
NM—Liz Busby-Kuehn
ND—Terry O’Clair
OR—Ali Mirzakhali, Phil Allen
SD—Rick Boddicker
UT—Bryce Bird
WA—Laurie Hulse-Moyer
WY—Nancy Vehr, Mike Morris

WESTAR-Mary Uhl, Jackie Gadret, Bob Lebens, Tom Moore, Jeff Gabler

Agenda:

1. Draft WESTAR Ozone Transport letter to EPA (Planning and Technical Committee representative to present, draft letter to be sent Monday)
2. Technical Committee review of Dan Jaffe/University of Washington proposal (Gordon Pierce, document attached)
3. Fall business meeting-vote on agenda items and logistics (Mary Uhl, agenda items document attached)
4. Update on residential wood heating NSPS and WESTAR workgroup (Bob Lebens)
5. Other items as time and interest permits

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

1. Draft WESTAR Ozone Transport letter to EPA (Planning and Technical Committee representative to present, draft letter to be sent Monday)

   Nancy Vehr had no concerns until the second to last paragraph—ozone precursor analysis in the east should be completed for the west. The 1% threshold was discussed by the committees, EPA is applying this as a threshold in the east and in the west. Danilo said that the 1% is not regulatory but a policy threshold to determine whether states have to complete additional analysis. Garry Kaufman said that 1% is not an appropriate threshold as a policy threshold. Ali Mirzakhalili noted that the 1% threshold is being used by EPA to determine contribution. Garry proposed taking out “(1 percent)”. Ali agreed to that. All other changes were accepted. Colorado made the motion and Oregon seconded to support the letter. All states present supported the letter; there were no states in opposition.

2. Technical Committee review of Dan Jaffe/University of Washington proposal (Gordon Pierce, document attached)

   1. The concept is good and could provide a lot of useful information related to wildfire emissions and ozone formation potential.

   2. Pairing a Markes TD-100 thermal desorption system to the Agilent 7890/5977 is easy. We have a similar system here at the Colorado Dept of Public Health & Envir. The cost for the TD-100 is about $45,000.

   3. We would strongly recommend that a Markes Kori water management system be purchased as well or many of the oxygenates will not be possible to analyze, and they are important components. The cost is about $20,000.

   4. It is assumed that Dan has optimized the adsorbent beds in the sample tubes for the compounds of interest, including oxygenates.

   5. From the call, it would be encouraged that Dan have multiple "suitcases" to send out so that smoke samples can be collected at different locations across the WESTAR region to cover different ecosystems that will have different smoke characteristics. It would also allow for smoke to be sampled at varying distances from fires.
It is presumed that Dan would submit a formal proposal to WESTAR to seek funding. It is understood that it is beyond the scope of the Technical Committee to recommend WESTAR fund projects, but we can say that this general proposal has merit.

Dave Klemp asked whether the data could be used for research, exceptional events, impact of long distance smoke, ozone. Gordon said it could be used for all of the above, including exceptional events. Is there a connection between this project and the characterization of ozone in the west? Could EPA fund this project? This would help to better characterize wildfire emissions. Bob suggested a letter in support of Dan Jaffe’s proposal to other funders.

3. Fall business meeting-vote on agenda items and logistics (Mary Uhl, agenda items document attached)

4. Update on residential wood heating NSPS and WESTAR workgroup (Bob Lebens)

A bill has passed in the House to extend the compliance date from 2020 to 2023 in the wood heating NSPS. Bob sent out a draft comment letter from NACAA to interested states in case states want to review NACAA comments. Bob said that the proposal from EPA will be to extend the compliance deadline by 3 years, there will also be an ANPRM on the test method, the emissions standards and the NSPS itself. EPA intends to wrap up these rulemakings by early 2019. Bob is coordinating a workgroup to draft WESTAR comments on these rulemakings. Bob is looking for information on nonattainment areas with woodstove impacts to incorporate into WESTAR comments. NESCAUM is initiating development of a model rule as early as this fall. WESTAR has advocated for a uniform federal rule in the past. When EPA proposes the extension to the deadline, there will be a strong case that there are around 85 stoves certified to the standard already.

Ali asked whether WESTAR would be watching the model rule—Bob will keep states apprised on the development of the model rule. Bob thinks the trade associations don’t likely think enough states would adopt a state rule and therefore might not affect EPA’s rulemaking outcome.

5. Other items as time and interest permits

There were no additional items presented.

The call was completed at 2:55 pm MST.