

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

AK-Alice Edwards
AZ-
CA-
CO-Garry Kaufman
HI-Marianne Rossio
ID-Tiffany Floyd
MT-
NV-Danilo Dragoni
NM-
ND-
OR-Jeffrey Stocum
SD-Kyrik Rombough
UT-
WA-Martha Hankins
WY-Nancy Vehr
WESTAR-Mary Uhl, Jeff Gabler, Jay Baker, Jackie Gadret

Agenda:

1. Review fall business meeting draft, attached (Mary Uhl)
2. Round robin discussion--likelihood of state travel authorizations for fall meeting (all)
3. Conference call with Peter Tsigotis to discuss EPA's emission inventory decisions (Mary Uhl)
4. EPA RH Clarification letter issues draft responses, A and B versions attached (Jay Baker)
5. Other items as time and interest permit

Minutes:

1. EPA RH Clarification letter issues draft responses, A and B versions attached (Jay Baker)
Jay said we have heard from nine out of 15 states in the membership on the draft letter. Jay reviewed the clarification memo that contradicted some of the information states have received from EPA regional offices. Jay noted that the WESTAR response focuses on the timing of the clarification memo. Both draft letters are the same aside from the last paragraph. Version A lists the word "reasonable" without definition as a potential source of conflict; version B doesn't specify the issues with the RHR without specifically calling anything out.

Martha Hankins asked if the letter's suggestion addressed the 3rd planning period, which it does. Jeffrey asked if we are making a decision today on the letter—OR prefers the B version. NV prefers the A version, but consensus is important here. HI says both are well-written, but prefers version A. WY likes version A. Martha prefers the A version, but make sure that we don't imply that EPA regions are giving us bad information. CO likes either version. AK likes either version. ID prefers version B but is fine with either. Nancy Vehr noted that WY had not received any advance indication that the clarification memo would be coming. Upon review of the memo, WY felt that there was change in how SIPs might be evaluated. WY felt it important to have the opportunity to consider the changes in their SIP submittal, so they asked EPA for 180 days extension to consider. WY feels it is important to work together and that there are better outcomes when EPA and states work together. On August 9, EPA responded that it would take a regulatory action to extend the deadline. EPA noted the 2017 rule extended the date for SIP issuance by 3 years. EPA said there are no new requirements within the clarification memo.

2. Review fall business meeting draft, attached (Mary Uhl)
Mary reviewed the fall business meeting draft agenda. There were no questions.
3. Round robin discussion--likelihood of state travel authorizations for fall meeting (all)
Of the states on the call, 5 indicated that they could travel out of state, 1 indicated travel was unlikely, 2 indicated travel was uncertain.
4. Conference call with Peter Tsirigotis to discuss EPA's emission inventory decisions (Mary Uhl)
Mary noted that Peter Tsirigotis quickly offered to set up a call with the MJOs to discuss the letter from all MJOs except NESCAUM on EI decisions. The call is set for Wednesday, August 18 at 9 am MDT. If states would like to join, contact Mary and she will ensure that you have the call-in information.
5. Other items as time and interest permit
There were no additional items.

The call duration was 40 minutes.