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—Tina Suarez-Murias
CO—Garry Kaufman
HI—Marianne Rossio
ID—Tiffany Floyd
MT—
NV—votes on matters via email
NM—Liz Busby-Kuehn
ND—Terry O’Clair
OR—
SD—Brian Gustafson
UT—Brice Bird
WA—Kathy Taylor, Chris Hanlon-Meyer
WY—Nancy Vehr, Cara Keslar and Darla Potter

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

Agenda:

1. Review and possible approval of WESTAR Regional Haze Comment letter (Mary Uhl, see RH attachment)
2. Review and possible approval of WESTAR EE stratospheric ozone guidance comment letter (Bob Lebens, see SI attachments)
3. Update on residential wood heating, including WHERA (Bob Lebens, see WHERA attachments)
4. Update on WESTAR smoke management workshop progress (Bob Lebens)
5. Oil and Gas Workgroup draft memo asking WESTAR states for assistance (Darla Potter, see OGWG survey attachment)

Draft will be considered final upon review and approval by a majority of the members, typically on the next monthly conference call.
6. WESTAR EGU Analysis Workshop for Regional Haze planning- WESTAR to pay for travel for 1 representative from each state (Tom Moore)

7. Other items as time and interest permit

Meeting Minutes:

Agenda:

1. Review and possible approval of WESTAR Regional Haze Comment letter (Mary Uhl, see RH attachment)

   From Danilo Dragoni (NV): Nevada is in favor of approving both RH comments and EE SI. As you know, Nevada was part of the group that first drafted the EE SI; I think it was a very good common effort to strike the right tone while convey all our concerns.

   Tiffany Floyd noted 2 minor edits to be made to the letter.

   AZ motion, ND second-all were in favor of approving the letter with Tiffany's edits.

2. Review and possible approval of WESTAR EE stratospheric ozone guidance comment letter (Cara Keslar (WY), see SI attachments)

   Cara reviewed the draft letter and noted that the EPA group convened prior to Nevada is in favor of approving both RH comments and EE SI. As you know, Nevada was part of the group that first drafted the EE SI; I think it was a very good common effort to strike the right tone while convey all our concerns.

   SD motion, CO second—all were in favor of approving the letter. Thanks to Cara for her leadership in the drafting of this letter. NV, WY, UT and CO were all very active.

   Bob Lebens noted that draft high wind/dust event guidance and alternate paths memo have been released for comment. Kerwin Singleton will lead high wind/dust even guidance comments with CO, NV, WA and UT participation. Bob is talking to 3 states interested in participating in alternate paths comments. Let Bob know if your state is interested in crafting comments. Nancy Vehr noted that WY is interested in participating in both of these workgroups.

3. Update on residential wood heating, including WHERA (Bob Lebens, see WHERA attachments)

   Bob noted that there was an update from Mike Koerber on EPA rulemaking at the business meeting. 2 proposals are at OMB: relief from step 2 date for 2 years; ANPRM sent on the RWH NSPS to more broadly look at the rule. Last week, NACAA held a
workshop in Sacramento with a heavy emphasis on local agencies in CA and WA, AK, OR and CA. NESCAUM has direction from their board to develop a model rule and certification program; CA could implement a certification program, but it was noted that 2-3 million dollars per year would be needed and the program couldn’t start until 2022-2023. NACAA’s message is that some states/locals will keep step 2 in place; some states/locals were going to only allow step 2 stoves on changeout.

WHERA has been developed by Senator Carper; it is a DERA-like program for woodstoves. If any states have concerns, staff at EPW and Bob are interested.

4. Update on WESTAR smoke management workshop progress (Bob Lebens)

Bob noted that we are working on a contract with Rob Greenwood at Ross and Associates to develop an agenda for the meeting. First meeting in January will bring issues to surface followed by a February meeting to resolve conflicts. State agency staff have discussed burners to be involved.

5. Oil and Gas Workgroup draft memo asking WESTAR states for assistance (Darla Potter, see OGWG survey attachment)

Darla Potter is a co-chair of the WRAP OGWG. As mentioned at the fall business meeting, Tom Moore mentioned this project to collect oil and gas information not previously available, but critical to the improvement of the oil and gas inventory. These inventories change dramatically over short periods of time. The survey will be delivered to state agencies in late October in 2 phases: 1. Fill out information based on internal data or update existing inventories. 2. Send survey on to subset of operators in each basin, targeting top 3-5 in each basin. ITEP has been contracted to assist tribes in inventory development; need to be aware of how operations may vary between state and tribal jurisdictions.

Tiffany Floyd asked how contact will be made with state agencies. Darla said the staff-level OGWG contact will be used, but if a state doesn’t have an OGWG contact the state air director will be notified. Darla said the group has made targeted outreach at the staff level.

6. WESTAR EGU Analysis Workshop for Regional Haze planning—WESTAR to pay for travel for 1 representative from each state (Tom Moore)

Tom Moore reviewed the 2 workshops coming up—the EGU workshop and the WRAP Technical Planning workshop. The EGU workshop will be on Tuesday, November 6. Information is in the attachment and was also sent to the Council on Friday. Hotel reservation cut-off for the November 6 meeting is October 16.
The WRAP Technical Planning meeting to review the regional haze planning effort will be held in Salt Lake City December 4-6. All workgroup leads and TSC members travel expenses will be paid by WESTAR.

7. Other items as time and interest permit

Nancy Vehr noted that Cara Keslar is on AAPCA’s monitoring committee-Lou Weinstock at EPA reminded everyone that there is an ICR for all ambient monitoring programs dealing with number of monitors, hours, etc. Comments are due Nov. 5. EPA is working on guidance for determining ambient air quality for permitting purposes; this may not be released anytime soon, but EPA is reviewing how this might affect fenceline/industrial monitoring already occurring in states.

The call was completed at 2:42 pm MDT.