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—
AZ—
CA—Tina Suarez-Murias
CO—
HI—
ID—Steve Miller
MT—Dave Klemp
NV—
NM—Liz Busby-Kuehn
ND—Terry O’Clair and David Stroh
OR—Ali Mirzakhali
SD—Brian Gustafson and Barb Regynski
UT—
WA—Laurie Hulse-Moyer
WY—Nancy Vehr

WESTAR—Mary Uhl, Bob Lebens, Tom Moore, Jeff Gabler

Agenda:

1. Summary of EGU Emissions Analysis Workshop for Regional Haze (Tom Moore)
2. Update on progress of WESTAR Exceptional Events comments workgroups (Bob Lebens)
3. Upcoming business meetings in Seattle (April 23-25, 2019) and Jackson, WY (November 4-7, 2019) (Mary Uhl)
4. Alaska DEC request for WESTAR to convene a call to discuss compliance issues-relates to residential wood heating (Bob Lebens)
5. Smoke Management Workshop update (Bob Lebens)
6. WRAP Technical Planning Meeting in Salt Lake City December 4-6 (Tom Moore)
7. MJO/EPA training summit summary (Jeff Gabler)

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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.
8. Oil and Gas Workgroup survey and update (attached, Darla Potter, WY and Mark Jones, NM)
9. Residential Wood Heating proposals update, if any (Bob Lebens and Mary Uhl)
10. Western Governors’ letter in support of WESTAR comments on regional haze and exceptional events (attached, Mary Uhl)
11. Other items as time and interest permits

Meeting Minutes:

1. Summary of EGU Emissions Analysis Workshop for Regional Haze (Tom Moore)

Workshop on Tuesday, November 6. 24 attendees in person/16 remote. Details about emissions from utilities in the west. Emissions will be sent out to the states for recent years for review. Utilities will contribute information about long-term plans. Successful workshop overall; states and utilities were able to converse about their facilities.

2. Update on progress of WESTAR Exceptional Events comments workgroups (Bob Lebens)

Two active workgroups one on high winds and dust led by Kerwin Singleton of NM and alternate paths lead by Kristen Martin of MT. Comments will come to Council likely in December for approval.

Prescribed fire and ozone guidance just released; federal land managers need to seek concurrence with states before submitting an EE demonstration. This guidance focuses more on what FLMs need. Need a leader for the review/comment preparation for this guidance. Lots of state participation on these guidance documents in general.

3. Upcoming business meetings in Seattle (April 23-25, 2019) and Jackson, WY (November 4-7, 2019) (Mary Uhl)

Registration information for Seattle will be available shortly; please mark your calendar with these dates.

4. Alaska DEC request for WESTAR to convene a call to discuss compliance issues-relates to residential wood heating (Bob Lebens)

Denise Koch noted that Fairbanks is a serious non-attainment area for 24-hour PM2.5; the borough of Fairbanks enforced effective controls including a local wood stove curtailment were put into effect and Alaska has seen decreases in PM2.5 concentrations. A citizen initiative was put on the ballot to prohibit wood stove curtailment and it was successful; this leaves the state to enforce the curtailment. Alaska does not have administrative penalty authority, so their
tools for addressing noncompliance with curtailment are limited. Denise asked that WESTAR states share any similar experiences to brainstorm options.

WESTAR is hosting a call to discuss Tuesday, November 27 at 10 am PST.

5. Smoke Management Workshop update (Bob Lebens)

This initiative started with the spring business meeting; there will be a facilitated discussion between burners and air agencies culminating in meetings in January and February. Hope to lock down meeting schedule in next week or so. States will meet alone on January 23, states meet with burners on January 24. Nancy asked if EPA Region 8 would be at the meeting; Bob noted that we have yet to extend an invitation to EPA Region 8. Nancy noted that since SIPs vary, we should include each region in WESTAR’s area.

Tina asked what is meant by “burners” - we have FLMs, private burners, state forestry agencies. Council will receive a copy of the invitation list so they can review.

6. WRAP Technical Planning Meeting in Salt Lake City December 4-6 (Tom Moore)

Purpose of this meeting is to check on progress in existing workplan from April 2018. Goal is to look at tasks to ensure that regional analysis is completed in early 2020. The budget and contractor support will be reviewed and the workplan will be revised as necessary. The revised workplan will be reviewed/approved by the WRAP board in March and then brought to the WESTAR/WRAP meeting.

7. MJO/EPA training summit summary (Jeff Gabler)

Jeff noted that in 2005 EPA turned training over to the MJOs; there were 20 EPA staff working on training at that time. EPA now have 3 staff working on training and there are no updates going on. The MJOs met with EPA staff Tuesday, November 13. Peter Tsirigotis brought together OAQPS division directors. We heard from EPA a renewed commitment to update the course materials to move this forward. EPA would like MJOs to develop a long-term plan for updating the training program. Ali asked where resources would come from; the MJOs are united that there should be no resources taken from STAG funds or MJO training funds. Jeff and Mary will keep the Council informed as we work with EPA.

8. Oil and Gas Workgroup survey and update (attached, Darla Potter, WY and Mark Jones, NM)

Tom Moore reported that the Oil and Gas workgroup survey has been released and is attached to the Council agenda this month. The survey is moving along; we are receiving input from states.

9. Residential Wood Heating proposals update, if any (Bob Lebens and Mary Uhl)
Bob reviewed a conversation that he and Mary had with Mike Koerber. NPRM for extended sell-through for hydronic heaters, but just taking comments on woodstove sell-through dates. There will be pressure to get extended relief to manufacturers. Bob speculated that there will be litigation. Bob anticipates drafting comments for the WESTAR Council. Denise Koch noted that Alaska is very interested in this issue and is happy to work

10. Western Governors' letter in support of WESTAR comments on regional haze and exceptional events (attached, Mary Uhl)

Mary noted that the Western Governors’ Association recently sent a letter to EPA in support of WESTAR’s recent comments on regional haze and addressing exceptional events in the west.

11. Other items as time and interest permits

There were no additional agenda items.

The call was completed at 2:53 pm MST.