

WRAP – Oil and Gas Work Group Draft Call Notes

Tuesday, March 30, 2021 (90 minutes)

10:00 am (AK), 11:00 am (PT), Noon (MT), 2:00 pm (ET)

1. Welcome/Roll Call (*Amanda Brimmer*)

Participants: Molly Birnbaum (AK DEC-DAQ); Dale Wells, Kira Shonkwiler (CDPHE); David Stroh, Thronton Rhannon (NDDOH); Sheila Vance (UT DEQ-DAQ); Darla Potter (WY DEQ-AQD); Mark Jones (NMED-AQB); Jeff Vukovich (EPA); Brian Davis (FS); Tim Allen, Catherine Collins (FWS); Debra Miller, Kirsten King, Mike Barna (NPS); Gail Tonnesen, Amanda Brimmer (EPA R8); Tom Moore, Mary Uhl, Jay Baker (WESTAR-WRAP); Amnon Bar-Ilan, John Grant (Ramboll)

2. Review Agenda (*Amanda Brimmer*)

3. Announcements/Updates

- a. OGWG Co-Chair Update - *Amanda Brimmer* now with EPA Region 8
- b. WESTAR/WRAP Staff Update - Jay Baker is now with WESTAR
- c. See WRAP Oil and Gas Work Group Agenda and meeting documents online at:
<https://www.wrapair2.org/OGWG.aspx>
- d. 2021-03-30
 - i. [Agenda](#)
 - ii. [WRAP Region Oil & Gas: Recent Activity Trends and Emission Inventories](#)
 - iii. [Update on 2020NEI plans for non-point Oil and Gas sector](#)

4. National Emissions Inventory (NEI) Update

- a. **2017 Outline – Strengths/Weaknesses for Western Modeling Platform (*Ramboll*) – *John Grant* – See presentation slides ([WRAP Region Oil & Gas: Recent Activity Trends and Emission Inventories](#))**
 - i. ***Rig counts down in basins***
 - ii. ***2014 Emissions inventory – discussion of differences in the WRAP inventory***
 - *Surveys on O&G non-point categories, Site specific in the circa 2014 EI*
 - *Collected circa 2018 characteristics as of 2018*
 - *Included the Uinta Basin Air Agency inventory – point source for well-site emissions*
 - *2014 baseline documentation – Final Report on the slide*
 - *WRAP also developed a future year inventory 2028 and Separated out by mineral ownership. Is there a benefit to adding this to 2017 prior to AQ modeling, tbd?*
 - iii. ***EPA 2017 NEI documentation***
 - *Jan 2021 Release of 2017 NEI TSD pdf*
 - *Additional doc of O&G tool available*
 - *No assessment of operator specific info unless reported directly by the states. – unless previously incorporated into the tool.*
 - iv. ***Slides show WRAP Region NOx and VOC emissions by State or Basin and for non-point categories (key differences) 2014 WRAP Circa 2014 versus the 2017 EI summary***
 - *O&G production changes by basin*
 - *Well type/formation shifts*
 - *Drilling activity changes*
 - *Operational practice/equipment configuration changes*
 - *Underlying 2017NEI assumptions, Application of O&G Tool vs. use of state provided emissions*
 - *O&G Tool application without recent survey updates -> use of the activity factors.*
 - v. **Tom Moore – Ideas on Next Steps**

- *Assess potential improvements of 2017 NEI for air quality modeling*
 - *Add mineral ownership detail to 2017 inventory?*
 - *Update 2017 emissions with WRAP OGWG survey results?*
 - *Survey applicable.*
 - *Evaluation of the EPA O&G Tool for select Western Basins?*
 - *Assess data inputs,*
 - *how/where to get better inputs*
 - *potential sharing WRAP OGWG survey data with EPA for the O&G Tool*
 - *Conduct additional targeted surveys, and integrate into inventory prior to air quality modeling Equipment configurations and operational characteristics*
 - *Control prevalence/type*
 - *Engine age*
 - *Gas composition profiles*
 - *Scope out additional potential analyses to assess the need for improvements in specific basins*
 - *Evaluate model performance/conduct sensitivity analyses (inventory improvements could come first, then model performance evaluation; would need RTOWG involvement)*
 - *Review of potential basin-specific implications of the most recent scientific publications*
 - *Comparison of satellite-derived NOx and/or methane to emission inventory*
 - *2017 active year with drilling and production. If doing a projection from 2017 would want to account for the changes. More surveys to find info in 2021. Scope out doing analysis with the Model.*
 - *A number of potential next steps including annual status of oil and gas programs.*
- vi. *Molly in Alaska concerned whether the NEIs incorporate correctly data from the EPA Oil and Gas Tool.*
- *Depends on what a State chooses to do. Some states 100% point and non-point – some in between*
 - *Tool could help to fill in the gaps. National Tool – Settings need to be checked but it is an estimate at best.*
 - *Curious if there are any add-ons to their state from 2014-2017 NEI O&G tool. Look at it by State – accuracy by equipment types. Alaska is different than the lower 48 states.*
 - *EPA could interact with individual states about the tool.*
 - *Look at Equipment factors --- to make sure applicable to the states and check accuracy for Western Regional applications.*
 - *WESTAR could help States and EPA could help us on the Tool.*
- vii. *State of Wyoming discussed ongoing concerns with using the tool.*
- *Serious concern for state resource consumption and use of the tool.*
 - *Emphasis on communications with each state on EI's.*

b. **2020 NEI Development Plan (Jeff Vukovich, EPA) – slides [Update on 2020NEI plans for non-point Oil and Gas sector](#)**

i. **2018 – 2019 work – 2020 Oil and Gas Inventory**

- *Right now idea of doing annual oil and gas NEI estimates in academic. If used for planning then would bring that up in separate exercise to get Western States involved.*
- *Amanda Brimmer - 2017 Year important --- Base-year inventory. NEI years line up with the Standards.*

ii. Next couple quarters NEI plans

- *Abandoned well emissions estimates*
- *Gap-filling from the GHG Reporting program*
- *Downloading activity data later this summer*
 - *Capture efficiency for tanks. Always working on that.*
- *Develop a white paper on Tanks- may not make it in the 2020 NEI*
- *Tribal data integration challenges.*
 - *CO does work with SUIT.*
 - *Tool to do the separation*

iii. Survey data

- *If available ---- would work with us on that*
- *April, May, June and on. Update the National Work Group on these things*
- *National Oil and Gas Committee*
- *Target the right people for participation and synergy with WRAP oil and gas work group.*

iv. Tom Moore, WRAP suggestions

- ***Characterize Point sources versus non-point sources on a state to state basis***
 - *Differs in states*
 - *Some internally linked definition in the NEI EIS process and see that their point sources are defined.*
 - *Tool would only potentially apply to the remainder of sources not accounted for already. Important not to double count.*
- ***Work on differentiation and accounting of Tribal sources***
 - *Not under the control of the states.*
 - *Specifically tracked in the NEI (FIPS)*
 - *Southern Ute tribe – can separate the two.*
 - *Non-point tribal don't always have gridding surrogates for the air quality modeling exercise.*
- ***Late 2016 was OAQPS moving in the Info Collection request for Oil and Gas Sources; changed with the Trump admin.***
 - *Could be a way to collect info directly from operators*
 - *Our WESTAR-WRAP members could design info to collect.*
 - *Probably not time to fit into the 2020 inventory effort – maybe the world after 2020.*

5. Track Oil & Gas Sector and Keep Up To Date (Amanda Brimmer) Agency Roundtable: State, Local, Tribal:

Initiatives/Rulemaking/Legislative changes or Regional Haze and/or Ozone SIP-related analyses related to Oil & Gas

a. Alaska,

- i. WEP analysis – a lot of the emissions from Denali Cook inlet basin. Interesting. For NEI what can do for this year. Molly, survey – too detailed. Wants to address oil and gas tool issues. Send to O&G operators in the state.*

b. Colorado

- i. Try to get existing source pneumatics have zero emissions this year*

c. New Mexico (Mark Jones)

- i. Legislative - Session has ended in NM last week*
- ii. A few different environmental initiatives were passed*
- iii. NM is still following through on the Governor's Climate Change Action Initiatives.*
- iv. Methane reductions from Oil and Gas and beginning work on a Clean Cars Rule.*
- v. A 2020 Climate Change report is on our main NMED webpage.*
- vi. Part of the NM's Methane Reduction Strategy is to implement an **Ozone Precursor Rule for NM.***

- Currently completing the modeling project
 - VOC and/or NOX controls for Oil and Gas Sources
- vii. Minor source inventory for 2020 calendar year.
- d. **North Dakota** (David Stroh)
- i. Quad O, Quad Oa primacy for EPA
 - ii. Commission general permit for oil and gas activity.
- e. **Utah**
- i. Looking at revising permit by rule for Oil and Gas --- going to potential moderate status for Ozone.
- f. **Wyoming**
- i. Experienced a delay due to the nature of the input received when took public comment from industry on proposed implementation pond gas oil field waste disposal pond emissions – guidance provided the pathway for permitting of those ponds. NSR.
 - ii. Minor source authority and no de minimus level. Progressing but slowed down. In the works. In 2021. Actively working on all the info coming in from Industry submissions 2020 Triennial emissions inventory
 - iii. Minor sources to major sources for 2020. To meet the EPA reporting deadlines.
- g. **Agency Roundtable: Federal?** No particular updates at this time; mostly on hold at this time.

6. Next Steps & Planning for Next Calls (*Amanda Brimmer*)

- a. Next Call Aug. 10, 2021
 10:00 am (AK), 11:00 am (PT), Noon (MT), 2:00 pm (ET) – 90 minutes Volunteer Call Note
 Taker – Amanda Brimmer
- **Track oil & gas sector and keep up to date via roundtable**
 - **Topic specific updates**
- b. Website Posting OGWG Materials – www.wrapair2.org/OGWG.aspx