

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-Jason Olds
AZ-
CA-Rebekka Fine, Michael Benjamin
CO-Michael Ogletree
HI-
ID-Steve Miller, Aislinn Johns
MT-Bo Wilkins, Liz Ulrich
NV-Andrew Tucker
NM-
ND-Jim Semerad
OR-Michael Orman, Ali Mirzakhilili
SD-
UT-Bryce Bird
WA-Rob Dengel
WY-Nancy Vehr
WESTAR-Mary Uhl, Jay Baker, Rhonda Payne, Jeff Gabler

Agenda:

1. WESTAR/WRAP Fall Business meeting agenda review, attached (Mary Uhl)
2. Fall Business meeting executive session agenda review, attached (Mary Uhl)
3. Draft themes for WESTAR comment letter on EPA's AERR proposal (Jay Baker)
4. Exceptional Events workshop February 27-29, 2024 (Mary Uhl)
5. WESTAR Leadership Training May 2024 (Jeff Gabler)
6. Staff exchange survey reminder
7. No October Council call due to fall business meeting
8. Other items as time and interest permit

Minutes:

1. WESTAR/WRAP Fall Business meeting agenda review, attached (Mary Uhl)

Mary reviewed the meeting agenda.

2. Fall Business meeting executive session agenda review, attached (Mary Uhl)

There were two additional agenda items added to executive session:

- a. Woodstove program pending litigation status update
- b. Discuss attendees for WESTAR leadership training in May 2024

3. Draft themes for WESTAR comment letter on EPA's AERR proposal (Jay Baker)

Jay noted there have been 2 calls with WESTAR member staff to discuss comments. The comments will be finalized on a call next week with a draft comment letter going out for review soon after. It was noted that EPA has an email address for questions and clarifications about the proposal. Comments on the AERR proposal are due October 18. Some of the issues noted:

- a. CAERS reporting system has not been required, but the proposal has elements that require states to use platforms that mesh with CAERS.
- b. Prescribed fire daily accomplishment data for non-federal fires may not be readily available.
- c. Timing and resources for reporting, the QA requirement for states has a very short timeframe.
- d. How will HAP sources be identified by states or by EPA?
- e. How do states cover the burden of additional reporting for HAPs and other non-point sources?

4. Exceptional Events workshop February 27-29, 2024 (Mary Uhl)

Tentatively planning this for February 27-29 in St. Louis, MO. There will be remote participation opportunities. Draft agenda was shared.

5. WESTAR Leadership Training May 2024 (Jeff Gabler)

The leadership training was a request at 2023 fall business meeting executive session. Planned for May 14-15 in Denver. There was discussion that we want to ensure all participants are at the same level—should this be for emerging leaders or established leaders.

6. Staff exchange survey reminder

Mary reminded the Council to respond.

7. No October Council call due to fall business meeting

8. Other items as time and interest permit

Bryce Bird will be providing testimony to congressional committee on the PM_{2.5} NAAQS. He welcomed input from Council members.

The call duration was 62 minutes.