

Advisory Council Minutes
August 26, 2010
Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency

Members Present:

Doug Pottratz, Citizen
Ray Kelleher, Business Community
Adrienne Borgias, Environmental

Staff Present:

Bill Dameworth, Director
Ron Edgar, Chief of Technical Services
April Westby, PE, Air Quality Engineer
Lisa Woodward, Public Information Officer
Debbie Riley, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

1. Approval of the June 24, 2010 Minutes

Due to lack of a quorum June 24, 2010 Advisory Council minutes were not voted on for approval.

2. Indirect Source Rule- April Westby

April Westby gave a brief presentation on the indirect source draft rule that Spokane Clean Air is working on. We don't have any way to regulate indirect sources right now. Indirect source means any facility, building, structure, or installation, or combination thereof, which generates or attracts mobile source activity that results in emissions of any air contaminant or toxic air contaminant. The definition of indirect source does not include public roadways or temporary construction sites. The provisions of this rule apply to indirect sources with annual diesel particulate emissions above 0.5 per year and 25 tons annual NOx emissions a year that cause or contribute to a violation of one or more ambient air quality standards or and adverse human health effect. Adverse health effect is defined as higher than average or expected occurrences of cancer and/or measured or modeled levels of toxic air pollutants which exceed 1 in 100,000 cancer risks based on a 70 year exposure. If either one of these things are triggered our agency will take a closer look. Once it is determined that the indirect source is subject to this rule, the facility would be required to submit an emission reduction plan which describes emission reduction measures to be implemented and timelines. The goal of the plan is to reduce emissions to the greatest degree practicable in the shortest time practicable. Emission reduction measures must be completed within five years for existing indirect sources or prior to construction for new indirect sources. After Spokane Clean Air deems the emission reduction plan as acceptable, there would be a 30-day public comment period, consider all public comments prior to issuance of the final decision on the emission reduction plan, and once the plan is approved the source would be required to implement the emission reduction plan. There was some discussion between staff and the Advisory Council Members.

3. Wood Smoke Outreach Campaign – Lisa Woodard

Lisa Woodard gave an overview of the Washington State Wood Smoke Campaign. Legislature passed a substitute House Bill 2261 in 2007 referred to as the wood smoke study bill. The bill recognized that recently the EPA lowered its 24-hour ambient air quality standard for PM2.5 by 46%. It also recognized that some communities in the state are exceeding or near to exceeding this new limit and high levels of PM2.5 are a serious health risk, especially for children, the elderly and those with impaired health. As a result of those findings the legislature directed the State Department of Ecology to form a work group and come up with some strategies and Bill served on the work group. They recommended practical and cost-effective measures to reduce effects of wood smoke. The work group met 8 times in 6 months to identify and evaluate numerous strategies for reducing the impact of wood smoke and came up with a report. One of our recommendations was to provide funding for a public education/information campaign related to wood-burning behaviors. Local clean air agencies and a group of communicators from Ecology's air quality program was tasked with developing a campaign with a net budget of approximately \$200,000. In 2009, Frause Group was hired from Seattle and after a few facilitated sessions, the group defined their purpose. The purpose is to encourage methods of storing and burning firewood that minimize air pollution. The campaign will be aimed primarily at wood burners who contribute the most to air pollution, that is frequent wood burners who do not follow practices which comply with air quality regulations and guidelines. Lisa would like to point out that the group developed a stakeholder plan to ensure that they were engaging stakeholders at key times during the campaign development process. Stakeholders included hearth industry and government and non-profit health agencies. Phase I has just been completed. The wood smoke campaign will target the open non-compliant wood burner. A survey was conducted and Lisa has received the final survey findings. With this information in hand the next phase, just now getting underway, is the strategy development and creative process. The timeline is to launch a pilot program in the Tacoma area during this upcoming heating season. The pilot will then be evaluated and fashioned for a statewide application during the next heating season based on funding. Lisa shared some statistics with the Advisory Council. There was some discussion with the staff and Advisory Council Members.

Adriane Borgias moved to adjourn the Advisory Council meeting and Doug Pottraz seconded it. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

The next Advisory Council meeting will be scheduled for September 23, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. - Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency office located at 3104 E. Augusta Avenue.

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

WILLIAM DAMEWORTH, DIRECTOR