

MINUTES

REGIONAL AIR QUALITY COUNCIL Thursday, September 21, 1999

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Shirleen Tucker, *CHAIRMAN*
Dennis Arfmann, *Holme Roberts & Owen*
Jane Norton, *Colo. Dept. Public Hlth & Env.*
Tom Norton, *Colo. Dept. of Transportation*
Don Parsons, *DRCOG*
Jim Scherer
Melanie Worley, *Douglas County*

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Theresa Donahue, *City & County of Denver* (Excused)
Sharon Votruba, *City of Thornton* (Excused)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ken Lloyd, RAQC; Misty Howell, RAQC; Patrick Cummins, RAQC; Bob Lowdermilk, AQCC; Gerald Gallagher, APCD; Rick Barrett, APCD; Julio Iturreria, Arapahoe County; George Gerstle, CDOT; Richard Long, EPA; Tim Russ, EPA Region 8; Bob Brady, Coors Brewing Company/AQCC; Dave Yamada, City of Thornton; Stan Dempsey, Colorado Petroleum Association; Chris Chesney, Traxx Auto Services; Doug Lempke, AQCC; Nancy Reubert, Envirotec Systems; Dennis Creamer, Conoco; Mark Fox, NCE; Becky Brooks, Stealey Associates; Patty Stulp, Ethanol Management Co.; and Margy Christiansen.

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of the Agenda

Melanie Worley moved to accept the agenda. Seconded by Jim Scherer. Motion passed without objection.

Public Comment

Dennis Creamer, Conoco Inc., informed Council that the petroleum industry will be making a proposal to the AQCC to change the length of the oxygenated fuels season. The proposed changes include deleting the first week of February and changing the blending requirement to 1.5% for the first week in November and the last week of January. The proposal asks the AQCC to evaluate these changes. According to Mr. Creamer, this proposal is viable and has a cost savings to the consumer. Mr. Creamer indicated that the petroleum industry would like to start the process. The intent is not to slow the RAQC's process. He asked the Council to support the petroleum industry's proposal. EPA recently approved the last change to the program, which will be effective November 1, 2001.

Jane Norton asked how much of the APCD's time the petroleum industry's proposal would require. Kim Livo of the APCD Mobile Sources Program indicated the evaluation should take 4-6 months. The APCD will need to look into the timing of the evaluation, as well as how it might affect the working being performed for the Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan. Patty Stulp, Ethanol Management Corp., informed Council that the ethanol industry will be doing a cost study of oxygenated fuels. The base study should be done in the next 30 days. She

indicated that the information from the study would be available for Council to use as an update to cost projections in the Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan.

Richard Long, Director of Air and Radiation for EPA - Region 8, gave Council some comments for making the Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan more approvable for EPA. He commended Council, RAQC staff and APCD staff on their efforts with this plan. Mr. Long also provided comments on contingency measures and EPA's approval of a complete submittal only. He also indicated EPA is more comfortable with dispersion modeling approach included in the plan. One suggestion was to take out the decision making background information since it is not needed for the plan and is not federally enforceable. He suggested that such information be included in a technical document.

Tim Russ, EPA Region VIII, added that since the Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan is a revision to the CO SIP information contained in the plan should state what is going to be federally enforceable.

Proposed Carbon Monoxide Redesignation Request Maintenance Plan

Ken Lloyd gave Council an overview of the meeting agenda items. He informed Council that the Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan as approved at today's meeting will be presented to the Air Quality Control Commission on Monday, September 27th at 10 am. The AQCC will then set a hearing for December 16th.

Patrick Cummins reviewed the Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan document by section.

Tom Norton asked if the 800 tons per day (tpd) mobile source emissions budget is an attainable number if the Mobile 6 model is not available. Patrick Cummins explained the placeholder strategy for oxygenated fuels was included so that the 800 tpd number could be achieved for conformity purposes in case the Mobile 6 model is not available. Patrick further explained that conformity determinations would not be affected by this change until 2001.

Dennis Arfmann moved to approve the Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan, to approve proposed changes to Regulation 13, to approve proposed changes to Ambient Standard Regulation and to support evaluation of further shortening of the season for oxygenated fuels. Seconded by Don Parsons.

Tom Norton stressed the importance of having a placeholder strategy relating to the emissions budget to make sure that Council can look at all options with maximum flexibility.

Jim Scherer stated that enough is known about the Mobile 6 model to know that current estimates are high.

Ken Lloyd explained that the placeholder strategy approach gives Council the opportunity to address this once the Mobile 6 model is available for use and many years before the placeholder strategy takes effect. Ken stated that the changes will not effect conformity for at least 1½ years, which gives Council time to make changes to the plan as needed to meet conformity.

Jane Norton offered several technical changes to the text, which were all accepted as friendly amendments to Dennis Arfmann's motion.

Proposed Revisions to Regulation 13 - Oxygenated Gasoline

Ken Lloyd gave Council an overview of the Regulation 13 changes needed to implement the Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan.

There was discussion about adding language to Regulation 13 which would allow the Council to change the percent of the oxygenated blend if needed to meet conformity.

Dennis Arfmann made a friendly amendment to his motion to recognize that everyone wants to make sure the 800 tpd budget does not interfere with the conformity process. He suggested that Council ask the RAQC staff, CDOT staff and APCD staff to work on a regulatory fix before the proposal is presented to the AQCC on September 27th. Council concurred.

Jane Norton distributed a memo outlining three options for considering the timing of revisions to Regulation 13. Council discussed the best way to present the plan to legislature without appearing to pre-empt their authority. Council decided to move forward with proposing the regulation revisions now along with the SIP and to get legislative approval on the complete package in 2000 as part of the normal legislative review process.

Proposed Revisions to Ambient Standards Regulation

Patrick Cummins explained the changes to this regulation changes the region's attainment status as well as containing the new mobile source emissions budget.

Dennis Arfmann asked if the previous issue with the 800 tpd budget needs to be addressed in the regulation. Ken Lloyd explained this is not an issue since this regulation merely establishes the budget and the suggested changes to Regulation 13 offers the means to meet the budget.

Dennis Arfmann's original motion to approve the plan and regulations and support evaluating the oxygenated fuels issue, along with the friendly amendments, passed unanimously.

Plan for Seeking Further Review and Comment on Proposed Maintenance Plan

Ken Lloyd gave Council a proposal for a public input plan for the Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan. Council approved the plan.

Ken distributed a questions and answers sheet and asked for comments from Council. This sheet will be used during the public input process.

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.