

2015 CRB Advisory Committee Meeting February 17, 2015

Committee Members in Attendance

Courtney Washburn	environmental group	Chair
Erik Olson	north Idaho grower	Vice Chair
Mary Anderson	Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)	
Patti Gora-McRavin	environmental group	
Tammy Hasenoehrl	central Idaho grower	
Cory Kress	eastern Idaho grower	
David Patrick	south central Idaho grower	
Mike McGown	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	
Tom Turco	health professional	
Kevin Greenleaf	Kootenai Tribe of Idaho	
Lester Higgins	Coeur d’Alene Tribe (via phone)	
Andrea Boyer	Nez Perce Tribe (via phone)	

Committee Members Absent

George Robinson	Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA)
Marc Fleisher	environmental group

Tenure of Committee Members

Ends 2016 (Appointed 2012)	Ends 2017 (Appointed 2013)
Lester Higgins – Coeur d’Alene Tribe	Andrea Boyer – Nez Perce Tribe
Kevin Greenleaf – Kootenai Tribe of Idaho	Patti Gora-McRavin – environmental group
Courtney Washburn – environmental group	Marc Fleisher – environmental group
Thomas Turco – health professional	Cory Kress – eastern Idaho grower
Erik Olson – north Idaho grower	Tammy Hasenoehrl – central Idaho grower
David Patrick – south central Idaho grower	George Robinson – ISDA
Mike McGown – EPA Region 10	
Mary Anderson (for Wilkosz) – DEQ	

DEQ Presentation

DEQ presented a review of 2014 program performance, and a review of 2014 CRB program recommendations. All recommendations from last year were implemented.

- Ozone program impacts were evaluated in the Coeur d'Alene area
- Website down procedures were developed
- Introductory background document outlining the CRB program was developed
- DEQ did not identify improvements for the CRB program

Committee Discussion

- There was discussion on the implementation and impact of the ozone program concentration limit within the CRB program, in particular the impact of the proposed lowering of the 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). EPA will finalize the ozone NAAQS in October 2015. This new NAAQS would become effective for the CRB program in spring 2017.
- There was a question regarding the typical PM_{2.5} concentrations on high ozone days. One option discussed is to implement a lower PM_{2.5} program concentration limit on higher ozone days, tiered or staged to become effective once the ozone program concentration limit is exceeded.
- Because CRB program concentration limits were first established based on health concerns, and linked to National Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) – and therefore also indirectly linked to the Air Quality Index (AQI) – it was suggested that tradeoffs in health impacts be considered when developing a tiered PM_{2.5} program concentration limit. The potential for increased ozone health impacts would be weighed against the potential for reduced particulate health impacts.
- It was recognized that since the start of the CRB program in 2008, there have been no hospitalizations or deaths associated with CRB.
- Chair elections were completed at the end of the meeting. David Patrick was elected as Chair for the 2016 meeting, and Courtney Washburn was elected as Vice Chair. It was proposed, and the committee agreed, that the newly elected Chair would begin service at the end of this meeting, and would be directly involved in scheduling and hosting activities or meetings from now until the end of the next annual committee meeting.

Advisory Committee Meeting Recommendations and DEQ Responses

- Increase the number of CRB monitors to improve CRB impact analyses and burn decisions, which would need to be purchased, maintained, and supported with CRB field staff. This could be accomplished via a program fee increase or with a dedicated fund earmarked for CRB monitors.

DEQ Response

DEQ is not taking action on this recommendation.

- Schedule a follow-up CRB Advisory Committee conference call to discuss tiered PM_{2.5} program concentration limits after completing initial research, including reviewing data addressing typical PM_{2.5} levels on high ozone days and addressing potential health impacts relating to particulate and ozone pollutants.

DEQ Response

The proposed plan is for EPA to meet with environmental health specialists to discuss the potential health impacts of tiered limits. After initial feedback and research, DEQ will facilitate scheduling a conference call with the Advisory Committee (and/or will add this topic to the agenda of the 2016 CRB Advisory Committee Meeting).

In response to recommendations, DEQ will not make changes to CRB program implementation in the next year.