

**Meeting Summary**  
**Air Management Study Group Meeting**  
Wednesday, November 11, 2020  
9:00 am

Renee Bashel - DNR	Tracy Holloway – UW*
Dave Behrend	Mike Kolb – WEC Energy Group
Rob Bermke	Brenda Kubasik – Madison Gas and Electric
Dave Bittrich - TRC	Scott Manley - WMC
David Bizot - DNR	Jason Martin – Foth Infrastructure and Environment
Scott Blankman – Clean Wisconsin*	Rita Neff – Manitowoc Public Utilities
Phil Bower - DNR	Todd Palmer – Michael Best & Friedrich*
James Bridges - DNR	Bridget Pankonin – Charter Steel
Noelle Brigham – Marquette University*	Katie Praedel - DNR
Rebecca Clarke - SORA	Andrea Simon – Interested Party
Mike Cassidy - Kohler	Brad Sims – Exxon Mobil
Craig Czarnecki - DNR	Sheri Stach - DNR
Steve Dunn – Alliant Energy*	Andy Stewart - DNR
John Gibbons – Tetra Tech	Patti Stickney - SEH
Gail Good - DNR	Steve Tasch – Trinity Consultants
Ashley Gray - DNR	Mark Thimke – Foley Lardner
Bob Greco – WC Energy Group	Ken Yass - Geosyntec
Rob Harmon - Amcor	Cyndi – Geo-Logic Associates
Art Harrington – Godfrey and Kahn S.C.*	Jasmine
Kristin Hart - DNR	Sean
Curtis Hedman – DHS*	Steve S
Maria Hill - DNR	Rugolo E
Joe Hoch – Alliant Energy*	

\*AMSG member

**Next AMSG Meeting.** The next study group meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 4** at 9 a.m.

**Opening remarks and agenda repair**

Gail Good opened the meeting. Craig Czarnecki ran through Zoom procedures. Roll call and introductions were made by attendees.

Gail acknowledged veterans Day and thanked Veterans for their service to our country. Gail went through the agenda and explained some logistics of the zoom meeting

## **Hiring Update**

DNR is currently under a hiring freeze but the program has been able to fill some high priority positions

- Two Biowatch LTE positions
- Two LADCO contract policy positions
- LADCO contract data position
- SIP and rule coordinator position

Angie Dickens left DNR and took a position as a data analyst at LADCO.

David Bizot, AQPS Section Chief will take a position as Policy Analyst focusing on transportation and NAAQS pollutants. David's last day as a section chief will be December 5. Gail will take the role of interim Section Chief. The program is working on filling the section chief position as soon as possible.

## **Proposed Guidance, rules and legislative update**

Kristin Hart provided updates on proposed DNR guidance.

Municipal Solid Waste Landfills – The Air Program recently sent out a survey to municipal solid waste landfills and is working closely with the DNR Solid Waste program to develop updated guidance. Revisions to the NESHAPS and emission guidelines are at various stages at EPA and the Air Program will update guidance to help sources understand these regulations. DNR plans to have the guidance done in early 2021.

Regulation of Non-road and Motive Engine Testing Operations – The Air Program is working on guidance and will explain in greater detail later in the meeting.

Next Day Deviations – The Air Program continues to develop guidance. The program is working with Legal Services on the draft guidance. It is the program's intent to solicit input and comments from stakeholders. The intent is to more clearly define ch. 439 to address questions and concerns previously received from stakeholders.

It was mentioned there is still ambiguity regarding the 2010 memo on ch. 439 regarding what deviations need to be reported and when. The commenter noted that short deviations with the reporting on the next day can have a big workload impact on the regulated community and DNR and consideration may be given to this relief in the guidance.

The Air Program acknowledged the comments and expressed appreciation on hearing the concerns.

The Air Program is working on guidance regarding insignificant emissions unites in emissions inventory reporting.

The DNR and Air Program are working through the Wisconsin Supreme Court decision on guidance. The program understands the guidance website has or will be taken down soon. The Air Program's intent is to continue to share guidance as it is being drafted and obtain comments. The program is looking at

different options for replacing the Air Program Guidance module. to continue to provide for transparency, ability for comment and access to guidance documents.

#### Proposed DNR rules

AM-24-12b Permit Streamlining – The Air Program is excited to announce the permit streamlining rule was finalized October 1, 2020 and on the books. The appropriate portions have been submitted to EPA for State Implementation Plan approval.

AM-20-18 VOC RACT Revisions – This rule continues down the rule making path with the Economic Impact Analysis solicitation step recently closing.

AM-10-19 2015 Ozone NAAQS – This rule is in the drafting stage with the Economic Impact Analysis solicitation step being next.

AM-31-19 Emissions Inventory reporting – No update provided.

#### Proposed EPA rules/guidance

While there are many rules EPA is working on, this presentation includes the proposed rules that the program prioritized as items of interest to the study group.

Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources and Emission Guidelines for Existing Sources: Other Solid Waste Incineration Units Review – No update provided.

Nations Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Major Sources: Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Boilers and Process Heaters; Amendments – No update provided.

Standards of Performance for Volatile Organic Liquid Storage Vessels for which construction, reconstruction, or modification commenced after July 23, 1984 – The Air Program is working on comments now with the comments due in November.

Revised Cross-State Air Pollution Rule Update for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) – There was a lot of litigation for EPA on this rule and it was recently remanded back to EPA. EPA performed additional work to revise the cross-state rule to more timely address attainment dates associated with the 2008 ozone NAAQS. The EPA draft is open for comment until December 14, 2020. This revision affects 12 of the original 22 states impacted and Wisconsin is not one of the 12. The Air Program is continuing review of the rule. It appears EPA generally used the same methodology for determining upwind and downwind impacts.

#### Finalized EPA rules/guidance

Reclassification of Major Sources as Area Sources Under S. 112 Reverses once-in-always-in applicability or NESHAP – The final rule was signed and will be published November 19, 2020.

Test Methods and Performance Specifications for Air Emissions Sources – The rule was published and goes into effect December 7, 2020.

Guidance: Inclusion of provisions governing periods of Startup, Shutdown, and Malfunctions in State Implementation Plans – The rule was posted October 9, 2020.

Project Emissions Accounting – This rule affects netting analysis methodology in New Source Review permitting. It was signed late October but not published yet.

All rules are available on EPA's website.

The Air Program appreciates hearing externals' feedback on proposed EPA rules to understand concerns. It is good to hear the perspective of those impacted by the rules to help understand any implementation issues. The program concentrates its review on our role implementing the rule, so it is valuable to hear the source perspective on implementation. To provide feedback on proposed EPA rule for DNR to consider as they develop comments, please contact the Program Director (Gail Good) or the responsible section chief, if known. To ensure their specific concerns are heard by EPA, Stakeholders should make a comment through the EPA docket on their own behalf.

### **Non-Road emissions and stationary sources**

Historically, emissions from engine test stands and product engine testing have been considered stationary source emissions and were included in air pollution control permits. In 2012 General Motors asked EPA to consider engine testing on automobile assembly lines to be considered mobile sources. The significance is that a mobile source is not a stationary source and would not be included in the permit.

In 2016 John Deere asked EPA to consider non-road engine testing on assembly lines to be considered non-road engine sources. Wisconsin is a leading state for non-road testing in the country, so this is significant in Wisconsin. DNR has received requests from several facilities to remove from air permits, process line emissions from non-road engine testing during assembly and consider them to be non-stationary sources.

DNR is reviewing information and drafting guidance on whether emissions from testing non-road engines may be removed from stationary source permitting. DNR continues to exclude Product, R&D, and Roll-off testing from air permits along with Non-road engines used at stationary sources such as forklifts, front end loaders, portable drills, generators, snowblowers, and portable generators that do not stay in the same place for more than 12 consecutive months.

A virtual listening session for engine manufacturers and other interested parties was held November 17, 2020 via zoom. The program's goal is to have something drafted by January with a February comment period.

### **Member updates**

Art Harrington – He is part of effort to create a new 501(c)(3) trade association called Wisconsin Aces. Group of parties interested in shared mobility, electrification of vehicles, etc. December 11 is the first meeting. Contact Art if interested. Art also suggested that members get together for a virtual social networking gathering to get to know each other better. Members can contact Art if they are interested and he will set something up.

## **Permit Projects**

### *E-signature*

CROMERR – Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Rule lays out process for e-Signature. It is not the same as a photocopy of a signature. Only a CROMERR certified e-signature process can substitute for ink signature. Programming is underway to allow applicants to e-sign air permit applications, with a goal to implement by January 2021. e-Signature is already available for compliance certification and monitoring reports.

### *Public Notice website Improvements*

The program is working to improve and modernize the look of the website. The new site will provide additional explanation on the public comment process.

Other updates to the page include improvements to ease of access to review documents. The site will also include easy access to recent applications received and final decision made.

The goal is to have these updates complete by end of fiscal year in June 2021.

### *Renewal Application improvement project*

The program is working towards improving quality and completeness of the applications received to facilitate an efficient renewal. Updated tools include the application checklists, forms and instructions with intelligence (responses will help direct users to other questions on the form) and updated webpages. (links in meeting slides)

The Renewal checklist contains helpful links to guidance and template plans – there is a tutorial for the checklist.

Question: are forms still integrated applications? yes

New tools include form indexes (decision tree on filling out the necessary forms for an application) and tutorial videos

Question: if submitting a construction permit and operation permit application at the same time, can the operation permit application be submitted later in order to not delay construction? Yes, however, remember to ensure the renewal application is timely.

## **Trends Report**

The Air Program published the 2020 Wisconsin Air Quality Trends Report in October. The report includes air monitoring data through 2019 and National Emissions Inventory (NEI) data through 2017. Overall trends indicate air quality in Wisconsin continues to improve, building on a 20-year trend in the state.

One highlight noted in the report is the improvements in ozone statewide and specifically along the Lake Michigan shoreline, an area historically impacted by elevated ozone concentrations.

The report shows the lakeshore areas have experienced an average reduction in ozone concentrations of 25 percent since 2001 and highlighted in both graphs in the PowerPoint.

All fine particulate (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) monitors in Wisconsin measured concentrations well below the federal air quality standards (Fig. 2). As a result, EPA considers all of Wisconsin “in attainment” of federal PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards. Since the early 2000s, PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations have decreased by over 35 percent throughout the state.

Compared to design values from the start of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) monitoring at each site, current design values are nearly 80 percent lower on average across all sites. This is a huge success and the largest reduction in SO<sub>2</sub> occurred at the Milwaukee-Southeast Region site, where design values decreased 94 percent since monitoring at the site began. In the last two design value years, the source-based Rhinelander site saw a nearly 50 percent drop in design value (69 percent in 2016-2018 to 36 percent in 2017-2019).

Most of this great news can be attributed to the reduction in emissions, which shows that air pollutant emissions in Wisconsin decreased substantially from 2002 to 2017. This year’s report had the most recent release of the NEI.

Some highlights include:

- a 63 percent drop in emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and a 58 percent drop in volatile organic compounds (VOCs), the compounds that form ground-level ozone
- an 89 percent drop in sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions
- a nearly 60 percent reduction in carbon monoxide emissions,

The report further breaks down emissions of NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC to show reductions in specific sources of these pollutants.

Satellite Maps are included that were derived from NASA. From 2006 to 2019, the Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI) on NASA’s [Aura satellite](#) observed reductions of NO<sub>2</sub> across the entire state, with the largest reductions found in the Milwaukee area. This is consistent with our ground-based monitors.

The program attributes the decrease in pollutant concentrations overall to the implementation of a variety of federal and state pollution control programs and the cooperation of our partners in that. The greatest reductions are the result of cleaner burning and more efficient fuel combustion from highway vehicles and electric utilities.

Internal outreach efforts included an email to all Air staff, and articles in the Resource and Division newsfeed.

External outreach efforts included web page updates, a news release, social media posts on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. The news release was sent on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> and within 15 minutes the program received two media inquiries.

The resulting interviews included: (Links are available by clicking on the items on the Trends Makes Headlines! Slide.)

- WPR with David Bizot - <https://www.wpr.org/dnr-report-shows-wisconsin-air-quality-improving>
- WAOW with Craig Czarnecki - <https://waow.com/2020/10/23/dnr-report-wisconsin-air-quality-improving/>
- WPR with Katie Praedel did a 45 min interview on the morning show on WPR 11/5
- WORT in Madison with Katie Praedel on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

This good news air story was broadcast across the state via TV, Radio and web. It was picked up by the Associated Press and was highlighted by many stations including WKOW in Madison, WXOW in La Crosse, WTMJ in Milwaukee, WQOW in Eau Claire and WLUK in Green Bay.

The report is available on the DNR website: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/AirQuality/Trends.html>.

## **Ozone Topics**

The Ozone monitoring season is wrapped up. This year's season ran from April 1, 2020 – Oct 15, 2020. The Kenosha County Monitors ran from March 1 through Oct 31, 2020.

The program conducted Enhanced Ozone Monitoring (EOM) from June through September 2020. EOM focused on precursor monitoring in Sheboygan and Kenosha counties. DNR will evaluate 2021 priorities in the ozone offseason and will update goals for a future AMMSG meeting.

With COVID-19 Safer at Home orders, essential work resulted in less flexibility for site visits. Weather also posed an issue, a July 10<sup>th</sup> storm temporarily knocked the Racine monitor offline.

Innovative improvements were made at the monitoring sites out of necessity due to remote work. Raspberry Pi microcomputers were deployed at all of the sites, resulting in a fully remote operations network.

Staff created training videos for new staff and conducted video conferences with externals to facilitate EOM research projects. David presented the updated 2018 – 2020 preliminary ozone data and highlighted that no values exceeded the 2008 standard, few sites exceeded the 2015 standard. A spreadsheet with all values is posted [on the DNR website](#) (this data has not been certified and is subject to change)

### *Implications of preliminary 2018-2020 ozone values*

2008 ozone NAAQS – 3-state Chicago area, including partial Kenosha County  
This area currently has a “serious” classification with an attainment date of July 2021. The attainment plan was out for comment through November 9, with submittal to EPA to follow. The program expects the area will not attain, due to re-violation of an Illinois monitor. This will result in a bump-up to “severe”, anticipated in late 2021.

### *2015 ozone NAAQS*

The Manitowoc County Nonattainment area is eligible for attainment.

Kenosha County, Sheboygan County, and Northern Milwaukee/Ozaukee shoreline Nonattainment areas will not attain by the attainment date of August 2021. A bump-up to “moderate” is anticipated in late 2021.

Door County area appears to have had a re-violation, this will prompt the need for a maintenance plan upon certification of 2020 data.

### *Regional haze*

The State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the second planning period (through 2028) is due July 31, 2021. The Class I federal areas in this region appear to be on track to meet their 2064 visibility goals. DNR has been working with Region 5 states, LADCO and federal land managers (FLMs) to ensure the latest information about source emissions, controls, and impacts in the region are documented. LADCO is currently completing the modeling needed to support state SIPs. DNR’s draft SIP is expected to be ready for formal review by the FLMs in early 2021, followed by the public comment period.

### **AMSG Charter**

The AMSG Charter has not been revised since 2015. DNR suggests that this is a good time to review the charter and bring it up to date. One area the program has identified for updating is AMSG organization and membership. The program has developed some potential changes but would like to form an AMSG ad hoc working group to review these and offer input before anything is finalized.

DNR is proposing a subgroup be formed to review the charter and membership guide. Questions for the subgroup to consider:

- Is the AMSG fully representative of air management stakeholders and interests? If not, who is not represented?
- Should AMSG include at-large representatives in addition to the stakeholders that have historically been on the group? If so, how would those seats intersect with the current membership?
- Could the charter do more to encourage fresh perspectives and new voices on the group?
- What additional clarity should the charter provide in terms of member selection, expectations on members, and the role of the AMSG co-chair?

Looking for members who are interested in being part of the membership working group. [If interested let Craig Czarnecki](#) know. AMSG members Art Harrington, Noelle Brigham, Todd Palmer, and Joe Hoch expressed interest. Guests including and Rebecca Clarke, Ken Yass, Rob Harmon, and Rita Neff indicated an interest in the project.

Tracy Holloway asked for more details on the group structure and what may be addressed Gail responded that the charter notes a co-chair, which we have not implemented and that a check on representation of sectors and stakeholders is prudent. It was noted by tribal members that Wisconsin’s Native American Tribes are not represented on our team, for example. The program also wants to encourage participation by AMSG guests and consider how to ensure that continues.



## **2021 Priority Topics (David)**

The following comments and ideas were mentioned by members, in addition to those presented on the meeting slides.

- The ACE Rule may be impacted by an administration change.
- Ozone transport remains a concern.
- Permit streamlining; much has been done here and the program should be commended. There is more that could be done on recordkeeping and reporting (NR439).
- Compliance audit immunity. We could be doing more on that in Wisconsin. Might require legislative changes but could be addressed as part of a Green Tier program.
- The EDGE program is up for reauthorization. The AMSG could be involved in making recommendations for changes or improvements.
- Continued updates on enhanced ozone monitoring and the MAML were also suggested.

No suggestions were made to remove any items already on the priorities list.

There were no suggested changes or conflicts identified for the proposed 2021 meeting dates.