

Recap of the October 31, 2006, NW-AIRQUEST Conference Call

On the call:

- Washington State University (Joe & Jen)
- Puget Sound Clean Air (Mike & Kathy)
- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (Phil & Jeff)
- Washington Department of Ecology (Sally, Clint, & Tom)
- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (Rick, Bruce, & Chris)
- BC Environment (Steve)
- EPA (Rob, Bob, & Jeff)

■ Conference Call Agenda Items:

Annual Meeting -

- To be held in Olympia (Lacey), Washington December 4 - 5, 2006
 - Clint sent out (Sept 13) lodging options and is looking into a lodging block with government rates if we receive information regarding number of attendees
 - **The annual meeting agenda items are needed before November 15**
- Agenda sessions were discussed and some ideas were put out there for specific presentations. A few presentation ideas had been sent in already via e-mail, and the NW-AIRQUEST administrative session will include a state of the consortium discussion and the election of a chairperson.

-- The sessions and possible session chairs were as follows:

- State of the Modeling / Level of Accuracy in NW-AIRQUEST products (possibly chaired by Mike Gilroy?)
- Project Updates / Grant-funded Work / Workshops Held (possibly chaired by Joe Vaughn?)
- Air Toxics (possibly hosted by Kathy Himes?)
- Monitoring Work and the new NAAQS (possibly hosted by Bruce Louks?)
- Student Work and Studies (possibly hosted by Brian Lamb?)
- Administrative Work for NW-AIRQUEST -- work groups, future of NW-AIRQUEST, election of new chair, etc. (host TBA)
- Poster Session?

-- The suggestions for presentations/discussions were as follows:

- Panel/Group discussion of the level of accuracy needed in NW-AIRQUEST products (MM5/Clearsky/Airpact)
- Panel/Group discussion on state of the modeling
- National Boundary Level Issues (Cliff Mass?)
- NPS/USFS/USGS - science workshop; deposition in Class I areas (Elizabeth Waddell?)
- Airpact evaluation of 2004 data (Jack Chen?)
- Model evaluation via mobile van-based monitoring for measurements (Jeff Arnold?)
- State of monitoring networks after the changes to the PM2.5 standard (Bruce Louks?)
- Agricultural burning network and Clearsky during the burn season (Joe Vaughn?)
- NASA Roses grant and satellite products user identification (Joe Vaughn?)
- AQI forecast successes (Chris Hall?)
- Wildfire event presentation with Airpact/MM5 (Clint Bowman?)
- Air toxics: monitoring abilities (Kathy Himes?)
- Air toxics: mercury deposition in S. Idaho (EPA Region 10?)
- Air toxics: Idaho's one-year (2007) monitoring project (Bruce Louks?)
- RGI project - applying Airpact to deposition (Joe Vaughn?)

- Incident modeling (Rick Hardy?)
- Election of new chairperson
- Work group discussion and break-out
- Future of NW-AIRQUEST

Level of Accuracy Needed for NW-AIRQUEST Products -

- A discussion was held in Boise to get Idaho DEQ into use of the matrix for their accuracy needs on NW-AIRQUEST products used. Absolute v. Relative accuracy was discussed. Other organizations should do the same and have a point-of-contact for this project so we can have that person participate and share during the panel discussion at the annual meeting. That discussion and the draft of the matrices will be discussed with the Air Directors the weeks after the AIRQUEST meeting, so this is important to have drafted by each agency for Air Director buy-in on our products.

Open Forum -

- Joe welcomed Jen Heinz (sp?) to NW-AIRQUEST as a new hire by WSU in the Web design and development arena. The hire is tied to the NASA Roses grant and Jen's work will allow a fresh new look to several Web pages and some new capabilities. Welcome to NW-AIRQUEST, Jen.

- Steve at BC Environment discussed visibility issues and a possible spring 2007 workshop (May?) to discuss and share with US counterparts ways to tackle visibility problems -- technical and policy sides.

→ Also, so we can better get a handle on how to set-up time for the Work Group break-out session at the annual meeting... If you haven't responded to the three questions below, please do and send them to Christopher.Ramsdell@deq.idaho.gov

1) Some NW-AIRQUEST members take part in multiple work groups, so simply waiting until the break-out sessions at the annual NW-AIRQUEST meeting to get the groups started up again will leave some having to decide what session to attend rather than being able to take part in multiple groups like conference calls allow. Do you think we should begin the work group conference calls again immediately or wait until the annual meeting to rededicate ourselves to the work groups?

2) Should our work groups be re-tooled into project-based groups (i.e., mercury deposition), or remain as they are in topic-based groups (i.e., data sharing, monitoring, modeling, etc.)?

3) Would you rather see a couple topic-based work groups like data sharing continue unchanged and have the project-based work groups be developed when a specific need arises?

Next Call -

- No call has been planned, but the draft agenda will be shared via e-mail as soon as possible.

- Please send any additional session or agenda information in, as well as a head count of those planning to come to the annual meeting. **Everything is due by November 15!!**