Notes from Air Quality Stakeholder Group Meeting #5

November 5, 2014

Action Items/Follow-up – Catharine Fitzsimons

Briefly reviewed handouts provided to workgroup members. These included a draft 2016-2019 Non-Title V programmatic budget for FY15-FY19, a summary of state general funds allocated to the bureau (FY05-FY14) and CAA section 105 funds in the Performance Partnership Grant (PPG) for FY10-FY14, information on state, federal, and fee funding of the Water Quality Bureau for FY08-14, and a summary of permit template types issued each year for the period 2002 through 2013.

**Action:** DNR will post the meeting handouts on the workgroup webpage.

Subcommittee Work – Darrell Hanson

Discussed workgroup report expectations and timelines. The report forward could be used to outline alternate points of view with full alternative opinions or points of view included in an attachment.

The intended audience is the legislature. Due to limited time that many legislators will have to read the report, the level of detail should be minimized.

Unless the workgroup wants specific fees to be proposed in bills, specific fee levels do not need to be included in the report.

Reminder: From the workgroup charter- Stakeholder group members will be expected to represent their organization’s interests and concerns. Stakeholders are responsible for consulting with their management teams to assure that the opinions they express are those of their organizations.

Today’s Goal: Workgroup members should leave with a basic concept of the recommendations to share with their organizations. The core recommendations should be short while the rest of the report will provide background.

DNR would like to have report completed and workgroup members sign off on report at Nov 13 meeting. If this is not possible, DNR would like to have the completed report from the workgroup by November 24.

Subcommittee Progress Reports – Darrell Hanson

**Editorial Subcommittee:** The subcommittee reviewed current report structure. Sections A through E have been drafted and are being fact checked by DNR staff. Executive summary, introduction, and recommendations sections are being worked on.

The subcommittee will polish report language after workgroup review of first draft, then send out a revised draft for one final review with redline changes. The subcommittee will use voting email to help track email replies that include significant changes to the draft document.
Ideal Plan Subcommittee: The subcommittee presented guiding principles for program funding followed by a funding framework that includes increased general funds (15% of total program costs) and new major source user fees (approximately $1 million) to offset reductions in Title V emissions fees. Minor source user fees would cover 40-60% of minor source permitting costs.

Workgroup members discussed need for a stop gap plan and recommendation to cover program expenses until fee revenues become available.

Alternative Funding Subcommittee: The subcommittee proposal would include user fees for minor and major sources. They assumed state and federal dollars remain at current levels. They included a recommendation for review of the monitoring network. Stakeholder groups would review fees annually and provide recommendations for fee changes based on program costs.

The proposal factored in additional costs to cover implementation of the proposed SO2 Data Requirements Rule (modeling path) and an additional Title V staff member.

The primary concern of some workgroup members was proposed construction permit fees that were approximately 5 times higher than those proposed in the Ideal Plan.

Finalize Task Force Recommendations – Darrell Hanson

Group members discussed consideration of broader funding mechanisms to reduce level of proposed construction permit fees in the alternative plan. Some members indicated interest in reworking the alternative plan fees to include other funding mechanisms.

The majority of group agreed that the Ideal Plan subcommittee proposal was the primary recommendation and would be included in the report. The Ideal Plan subcommittee members will refine the fee numbers to include a fee for administrative amendments.

Action: DNR will assist subcommittee members in identifying types of permit changes that would likely be considered administrative amendments.

Wrap-up – Darrell Hanson

A draft of the workgroup report will be sent out for review and comment prior to the next meeting. The bulk of the time for the upcoming November 13 meeting will be spent on reviewing a final draft of the report, completing minor redrafting work, and discussing the process for final report approval.

Lunch for the November 13 meeting will be available from a vendor in the cafeteria. The vendor, Pickerman’s Deli, serves sandwiches, soups and salads. Cash only is accepted.