

SOUTHWEST CLEAN AIR AGENCY

Board of Directors Meeting
June 3, 2010
3:00 P.M.
Southwest Clean Air Agency
11815 N.E. 99th Street
Vancouver, Washington

Optional Conference Call Number for use by SWCAA Board of Directors
(360) 407-3780 and PIN No. 117766#

(Note: Please notify Tina Hallock at (360) 574-3058 Ext. 10
if you desire that SWCAA pay the cost of this long distance call because
in this circumstance a state SCAN Operator will need to telephone you.)

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
 - A. SWCAA Chair Don Jensen.

- II. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum
 - A. SWCAA Chair Don Jensen.

- III. Board of Directors Minutes
 - A. Board of Directors Minutes of May 6, 2010.

- IV. Changes to the Agenda
 - A. SWCAA Chair Don Jensen.

- V. Public Comment
 - A. Public Comment.

- VI. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Vouchers.
 - B. Financial Report.
 - C. Monthly Activity Report.

- VII. Public Hearing
 - A. None.

- VIII. Unfinished Business/New Business
 - A. Cancellation of July 1, 2010 Board of Directors Meeting.**
 - 1. Issue – Cancellation of the July 1, 2010 Board of Directors meeting.
 - 2. Summary – The 4th of July occurs near the regularly scheduled July Board of Directors meeting. The Washington Clean Air Act requires that SWCAA’s Board of Directors meet at least 10 times per year. Six meetings have been held through

the June Board meeting. Vouchers needing payment in July will be hand delivered for the necessary Board signatures.

3. RECOMMENDATION – Cancel the July 1, 2010 Board of Directors meeting.

IX. Control Officer Report

A. Gorge Air Quality Strategy Update.

1. Issue – Oregon DEQ has announced that it intends to deny PGE’s Boardman Petition requesting that it be allowed to operate until 2020 without complying with DEQ rules that require installation of significant emission controls and then shut down operations in 2020.
2. Summary – EPA’s Regional Haze rules specify that in PGE Boardman’s case Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) emission controls need to be installed by 2015 (i.e., within 5 years of EPA approval of DEQ’s Regional Haze state implementation plan which is forecast to occur in summer 2010). By denying PGE’s petition, Oregon DEQ gives itself the opportunity to use a starting basis for amending its PGE Boardman BART rule with something other than only PGE’s Petition. PGE Boardman is currently required to spend approximately \$479 million on emission controls by 2018. DEQ staff will be announcing later this summer its proposed response. The Environmental Quality Commission’s (EQC) final decision on a possible amendment of the current DEQ BART rule might occur in December 2010.

B. Sierra Club Files Appeal in Thurston County Superior Court against SWCAA and the Title V Renewal Permit Issued to TransAlta.

1. Issue – The Sierra Club has filed an appeal of the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) April 2010 ruling that supported SWCAA’s decisions on the TransAlta renewal Title V Operating Permit.
2. Summary – The Sierra Club alleges in its Petition for Review with the Thurston County Superior Court that the “PCHB’s Order Granting Summary Judgment to SWCAA is an erroneous interpretation and application of the law.” The filing concludes that the "PCHB’s incorrect legal conclusions are contrary to the purpose and requirements of the Clean Air Act and the Title V Air Operating Permit program, as well as established federal, state and regulatory precedent." Sierra Club asks the court for a remand to the PCHB with an order to vacate its Order Granting Summary Judgment for SWCAA and also to remand the Title V Permit back to the SWCAA with instructions for SWCAA to establish permit terms, including emissions limits for carbon dioxide and mercury, particular control technologies, or operating standards, if necessary, that assure compliance with all applicable requirements, including the general emissions standard's prohibition on detrimental emissions and need to meet reasonably available control technology (RACT) requirements. SWCAA's Fiscal Year 2010/2011 budget will need to be amended in August 2010 to reflect the Thurston County Superior Court appeal pass through expenses to TransAlta.

C. Report Identifies Top 25 National Parks Threatened by Global Warming.

1. Issue – Global warming is the greatest threat to our national parks according to

a report prepared by two environmental groups.

2. Summary – The report cites the 25 national parks with the greatest vulnerability to global warming. They include: Mount Rainier National Park, Yellowstone National Park, Yosemite National Park, Glacier National Park, Joshua National Park, Everglades National Park and Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The threats these and other national parks face include loss of ice and snow, loss of water, higher seas and stronger coastal storms, more downpours and flooding, loss of plant communities and wildlife, loss of fishing and increased air pollution.

D. NACAA Comments on EPA’s Proposal to Amend Renewable Fuels Program.

1. Issue – The National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA) has submitted comments on EPA’s proposed changes to the renewable fuel standard (RFS) stating that the use of renewable fuels for the purposes of energy security and greenhouse gas emissions have been made without sufficient study of the impacts on air quality.

2. Summary – EPA data shows that the combined upstream and downstream emissions from the 36 billion gallons a year renewable fuels standard adopted by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 will result in significant increases in criteria air pollutants and toxic air pollutants. NACAA urges that this impact be mitigated in the rule. NACAA is also concerned that the full lifecycle emissions of the renewable fuels standard be considered, including direct and indirect emissions, such as land use changes. The association notes that biofuels induced land use changes can result in large greenhouse gas emissions in the near term with respect to renewable fuels (e.g., corn ethanol, sugarcane ethanol and soy-based biofuels) and that it takes a significant amount of time for these emissions impacts to be negated by replacing petroleum with biofuels.

E. EPA Releases Report on SO₂ Emission Reductions Obtained From Power Plants under Acid Rain Program.

1. Issue – According to EPA, emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) from power plants in the United States in 2008 were already below the 2010 statutory annual emission cap of 8.95 million tons.

2. Summary – The 1990 Federal Clean Air Act established a nationwide cap on sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions from power plants for 2010 and beyond. Emissions of sulfur dioxide nationwide from power plants dropped to 7.6 million tons in 2008. This emissions level is 52 percent of the sulfur dioxide emissions from power plants emitted in 1990.

XI. Board Policy Discussion Issues

A. As Necessary.

XII. Issues for Next Meeting

A. Public Hearing.

1. None.

B. New Business/Unfinished Business.

1. Amendment of Fiscal Year 2010/2011 Budget for Sierra Club's Thurston County

Superior Court Appeal of SWCAA's renewal Title V Permit for TransAlta.

C. Control Officer Report.

1. As Necessary.

D. Board Policy Discussion Issues.

1. As Necessary.

E. Meeting Date and Location

1. August 5, 2010 at 3:00 p.m., Southwest Clean Air Agency, 11815 NE 99th Street, Vancouver, Washington.

XII. Adjournment

Mission Statement

“To Preserve and Enhance Air Quality in Southwest Washington”

Board of Director Values

1. It is important for the region to first achieve healthy air before focusing on other air quality issues.
2. Local control of southwest Washington air pollution issues should be apparent to our constituency.
3. It is important that compliance with federal and state air pollution regulations be achieved.
4. A partnership that is fully reciprocal is desired with the Washington Department of Ecology and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
5. All decisions made by the Board should be guided by a principle of doing what is best for the region as a whole.
6. It is important to strive for a good working relationship with the residents and industries of southwest Washington.
7. The effort to obtain stakeholder input on agency actions is a key component of the agency’s public involvement process.
8. The pursuit of reductions in air pollution should be based on achieving the largest air quality benefits first.
9. The basis for air pollution reduction measures should be rooted in sound science.
10. Education should be utilized as an important tool for achieving sustained voluntary compliance.
11. The priority of enforcement decisions should first be on ensuring education is achieved and then issuance of civil penalties.
12. Effective enforcement means that recalcitrant sources are brought into clear compliance.
13. The Board prefers to be involved at the policy setting level for the agency rather than the day-to-day management issues.
14. Fiscal expenditures by the agency should be consistent with the Board approved budget.
15. The fair treatment of the agency’s employees is an important goal of the Board.

Note: (1) Served by C-TRAN Routes: 7, 72 and 76.

(2) Accommodation of the needs for disabled persons can be made upon request.
For more information, please call (360) 574-3058 extension 10.