



# Director's Report

NOVEMBER 2013

The Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station at the Ninth Street County Complex has been operating since October 2013. Expanding our community's charging station infrastructure helps promote EVs as a viable alternative to the typical gasoline powered vehicle. The charging station is available free to the public from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on normal business days. The AQMD operates two EVs – a fully electric Nissan Leaf and an extended range Via Motors Van. These vehicles are charged during off peak hours when geothermal energy contributes a larger portion of the total amount of electricity generated. Here are some statistics over the past year.

- 15 unique drivers,
- 274 charge ups,
- 2 MWh of electricity used,
- 2,750 kg of greenhouse gas emissions reduced, and
- 323 gallons of gasoline saved.



## AIR QUALITY COMPARISON FOR NOVEMBER

Air Quality Index Range		# OF DAYS NOVEMBER 2013	# OF DAYS NOVEMBER 2012
<b>GOOD</b>	<b>0 to 50</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>MODERATE</b>	<b>51 to 100</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS</b>	<b>101 to 150</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>UNHEALTHY</b>	<b>151 to 200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>VERY UNHEALTHY</b>	<b>201 to 300</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>

# Air Quality Management Division

## Air Quality Management Division

On November 19<sup>th</sup>, a presentation was made by Charlene Albee, Permitting and Enforcement Branch Chief, to the City of Reno Enterprise Review Committee on the Washoe County Air Quality Management Program. At their request, the presentation included a history of the Federal Clean Air Act regulations which established the foundation for the delegation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the monitoring, planning, permitting, and enforcement programs currently implemented by the Air Quality Management Division. The presentation also provided a summary of air quality activities and levels of service for each of the jurisdictions in Washoe County. Examples of the application and renewal fee structure were also provided to illustrate how the fees are established to recover the cost of the permitting and compliance efforts only. A summary of the funding mechanisms for the Air Quality Division demonstrated that the costs associated with the monitoring, planning, and enforcement activities are not supplemented by permit fees. After a question and answer session, the Committee expressed their appreciation for the time and effort spent on the presentation and indicated they learned a lot about the management of air quality in Washoe County.

*Daniel Inouye, Acting Division Director*

**HIGHEST AQI NUMBER BY POLLUTANT**

**Air Quality**

POLLUTANT	NOV 2013	YTD for 2013	NOV 2012	Highest for 2012
CARBON MONOXIDE (CO)	23	24	26	29
OZONE 8 hour (O3)	42	93	42	104
PARTICULATES (PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	108	174	105	105
PARTICULATES (PM <sub>10</sub> )	64	97	70	74

For the month of November 2013, the highest Air Quality Index (AQI) values reported was one hundred-eight (108) for PM2.5. There were no exceedances of Carbon Monoxide, Ozone or PM10. There were five (5) days the air quality was in the good range, twenty-three (23) days the air quality was in the moderate range, and two (2) days the air quality was unhealthy for sensitive groups.

**Planning & Monitoring Activity**

Know the Code

A persistent temperature inversion contributed to elevated fine particulate matter (PM2.5) levels during the last part of November. The first Yellow burn code of the season was issued on November 24. The burn code remained Yellow until stronger winds improved air pollution levels resulting in a Green burn code on December 2. The rolling 24-hour AQI reached the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups range (AQI above 100) on two days in November.

American and Rim Fires

These fires significantly impacted Northern Nevada from August 11 to September 9, 2013. PM2.5 data for that period were flagged as they were submitted to AQS. Flagging of the data is the first step in demonstrating that these impacts were an exceptional event and should be excluded when comparing the data to National Ambient Air Quality Standards. The exceptional events request for the American and Rim fires will be submitted to EPA in 2014.

*Dan Inouye, Branch Chief  
Planning and Monitoring*

Permitting Activity

TYPE OF PERMIT	2013		2012	
	NOVEMBER	YTD	NOVEMBER	ANNUAL TOTAL
Renewal of Existing Air Permits	90	1260	92	1339
New Authorities to Construct	2	62	9	88
Dust Control Permits	9 (94 acres)	116 (1087 acres)	6 (48 acres)	105 (1420 acres)

Wood Stove Certificates	35	337	14	329
WS Dealers Affidavit of Sale	9 (5 replacements)	86 (54 replacements)	13 (9 replacements)	134 (83 replacements)
WS Notice of Exemptions	569 (7 stoves removed)	7786 (80 stoves removed)	881 (8 stoves removed)	7346 (83 stoves removed)

<i>Combined Total for both: Asbestos Assessments and Asbestos Demo and Removal (NESHAP)</i>	57	966	77	1148
Asbestos Assessments	46	775	-	-
Asbestos Demo and Removal (NESHAP)	11	191	-	-

Compliance &  
Inspection Activity

Staff reviewed seventeen (17) sets of plans submitted to the Reno, Sparks or Washoe County Building Departments to assure the activities complied with Air Quality requirements.

Staff conducted forty-nine (49) stationary source renewal inspections and fifty-four (54) gas station inspections in November 2013. Staff also conducted inspections on asbestos removal and construction/dust projects.

Permitting & Enforcement Activity

The Regional License & Permitting Software Program is proceeding following the direction from the Reno City Council, Washoe County Commission, and the District Board of Health. We are pleased to announce the City of Sparks has rejoined the project. Presentations to the community interest groups began with the Development Services Forum and the Builders Association of Northern Nevada. Presentations are also scheduled for the Associated General Contractors and the Reno Chamber of Commerce. Preliminary feedback from the interest groups can best be described as “cautiously supportive”. The idea of having all licensing and permitting services for the region available on-line is something they have been requesting for years but to now have a proposed tangible solution is “almost too good to be true”. The cost recovery options included in the presentations have been generally well received. To date, the consensus seems to be that the proposed 4% technology fee is not unreasonable for the services that will be provided. The “cautious support” is dependent on the Accela Automation software being able to deliver as promised. The Project Executive Committee is hoping to have the final contract and jurisdictional agreements ready for presentation to the Boards/Councils by February.

In preparation for the new licensing & permitting software, the Permitting Staff has begun preparations for the migration of data from the existing Permits Plus System to Accela Automation. Emission calculation methods will be streamlined to allow for an easier transition and future flexibility as research provides improved emission factors. The current system contains 460 conditions of operation that are being reviewed and formatted for migration into the new system.

The Permitting and Enforcement staff completed their annual asbestos recertification on November 20<sup>th</sup>. The staff certifications include two (2) Building Inspectors and five (5) Building Inspector & Management Planners. All staff members have also completed the annual Mine Safety & Health Administration (MSHA) Safety Training which is required to be able to enter mining/aggregate processing facilities for inspection purposes.

*Charlene Albee, Branch Chief  
Permitting & Enforcement*

Enforcement Activity

COMPLAINTS	2013*		2012		
	NOVEMBER	YTD	NOVEMBER	YTD	Annual Total
Asbestos	1	22	3	18	18
Burning	0	4	3	8	8
Construction Dust	2	27	0	30	30
Dust Control Permit	0	11	0	6	7
General Dust	2	41	5	44	46
Diesel Idling	0	2	0	7	8
Odor	2	14	1	15	16
Spray Painting	0	10	1	4	5
Permit to Operate	2	25	4	53	55
Woodstove	1	12	1	16	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>209</b>
NOV'S	NOVEMBER	YTD	NOVEMBER	YTD	Annual Total
Warnings	4	24	1	43	46
Citations	4	27	6	38	40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>86</b>

\* Discrepancies in totals between monthly reports can occur because of data entry delays.

Notices of Violation (NOVs):

There were no Notice of Violations (NOV's) issued in the month of November 2013.