



WASHOE COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DIVISION



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

DIRECTOR STAFF REPORT BOARD MEETING DATE: October 23, 2014

DATE: October 10, 2014

TO: District Board of Health

FROM: Charlene Albee, Director
775-784-7211, calbee@washoecounty.us

SUBJECT: Program Update – Accela Project Kick-Off, Successful Enforcement Outcome;
Divisional Update – Monthly Air Quality Index; Program Reports

1. Program Update

a. Accela Project Kick-Off

The official kick-off meeting for the Regional Licensing & Permitting Software Project (Accela Project) occurred on September 2nd at the City of Reno Council Chambers. To reinforce the importance of and dedication to the successful implementation of the project, approximately 100 staff members representing the participating agencies were addressed by each of the four project sponsors, including Andrew Clinger (Reno City Manager), Steve Driscoll (Sparks City Manager), John Slaughter (Washoe County Manager), and Bob Sack (Acting Health Officer). Staff was introduced to the Accela Automation System, provided an overview of the project, and a schedule of events including the projected “Go Live” date of January, 2016. Following the kick-off meeting, Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) from each of the agencies participated in a training session to learn the functionality of the system.

On September 23rd, analysis sessions commenced to identify the as-is-processes and begin working towards the design of the to-be-processes. Each of the participating agency departments/divisions were tasked with identifying their top 5 record (permit) types and creating a portfolio for each one on the project Share Point Site. The portfolios provide the Accela Staff with all of the permit applications, workflow diagrams, screenshots of the existing Permits Plus System, fee schedules, data dictionaries, inspection forms, report forms, and permit outputs. The AQM and EHS staffs worked diligently to complete the program portfolios prior to the established deadlines and included streamlining business processes wherever appropriate. Upon review of the data collected, Washoe County IT and the Accela Project Management Team made the decision to start the analysis sessions with the Health District since those were the most complete portfolios available. AQM successfully completed analysis sessions on September 23rd and 30th. To date, four of the top five record types have completed the to-be-analysis sessions. Completion of the final analysis sessions should provide enough information necessary for Accela staff to begin the next phase of the project which is configuration of the solution foundation.

b. Successful Enforcement Outcome

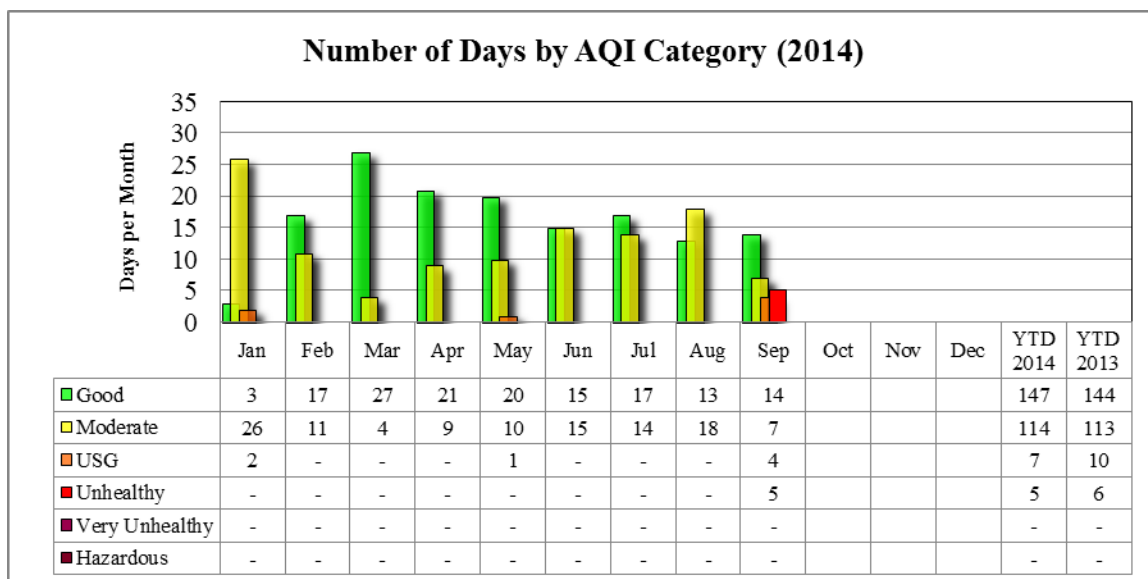
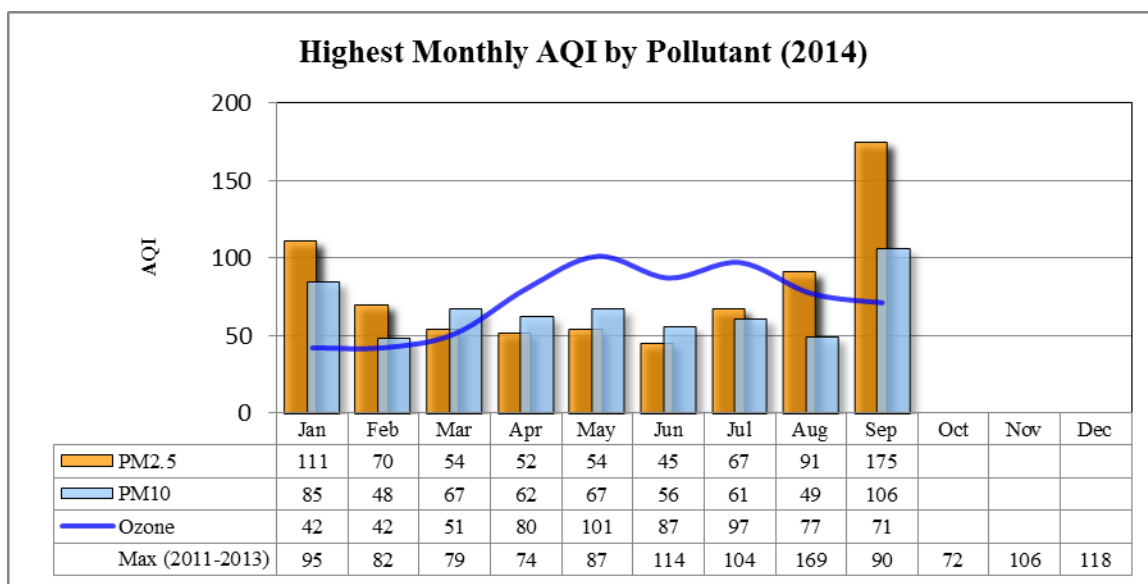
The ultimate goal of any enforcement action is public health and safety. The AQM Enforcement Staff encourages education to avoid any future violations whenever appropriate. At the February meeting, the District Board of Health upheld a citation and penalty issued to Lobo Construction for a violation of the Air Quality Management asbestos regulations. The terms of the negotiated settlement included a monetary fine and the successful completion of a 16-hour Asbestos Awareness Training Course.

The AQM has received a copy of the certificate issued to Mr. Jorge Cruz verifying his completion of the 16-hour Initial Asbestos Operations & Maintenance Course provided by Wise Consulting & Training. Upon completion of the course, Mr. Cruz acknowledged the tremendous amount of information he had obtained regarding asbestos health effects and the potential liabilities, both personal and professional, associated with the construction industry. Mr. Cruz expressed his concern that many other non-English speaking workers may not be aware of the dangers of asbestos. In order to assist in the dissemination of the information, Mr. Cruz is working with Mr. Tom Wise and a third party interpreter to develop a Spanish version of the course. Once completed, the Spanish version of this course will provide a significant benefit to the public health and safety of the community. The AQM Enforcement Staff is excited about the prospect of utilizing a new resource to provide educational opportunities which may prevent future compliance issues.

Charlene Albee, REM
Director, Air Quality Management Division

2. Divisional Update

- a. Below are two charts detailing the latest air quality information for the month of September. The top chart indicates the highest AQI by pollutant and includes the highest AQI from the previous three years in the data table for comparison. The bottom chart indicates the number of days by AQI category and includes the previous year to date for comparison.



Please note AQI data are not fully verified and validated and should be considered preliminary. As such, they should not be used to formulate or support regulation, guidance, or any other governmental or public decision. For a daily depiction of the AQI data, please visit www.OurCleanAir.com for the most recent AQI Summary.

3. Program Reports

a. Monitoring & Planning

There were 6 exceedances of the PM_{2.5} standard and 1 exceedance of the PM₁₀ standard during the month of September. The Air Quality Index levels occasionally reached the Very Unhealthy category (AQI between 201 and 300) during the episode.

These PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ exceedances were due to smoke from the King Fire near Pollock Pines, CA. An exceptional events demonstration will be prepared requesting EPA not to include these data when determining compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards. The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection also monitored PM_{2.5} exceedances during the episode. As with the Rim Fire exceptional events demonstration, AQM staff will coordinate with NDEP staff in developing the demonstration.

AQM staff attended two American Planning Association, Nevada Chapter brownbag meetings. These meetings included presentations about Truckee Meadows Tomorrow and Safe Routes to School. AQM is a member the APA Chapter. These events provide AQM staff opportunities to meet and collaborate with local planners. Planners can shape our community design which is a critical element to encouraging active transportation, reducing air pollution, reducing chronic diseases, and improving the community's health.

EPA approved an AQM request to discontinue monitoring carbon monoxide at the South Reno site based on low CO concentrations. The South Reno CO monitor was shut down on October 1. Based on population, EPA guidance requires a minimum of two CO monitors in Washoe County. Without South Reno, AQM maintains five other CO monitors including locations where we see the highest concentrations in downtown Sparks, downtown Reno, and near the Spaghetti Bowl. The monitor removed from the South Reno site will be used to replace an older monitor located at the Toll Road site.

Daniel K. Inouye
Chief, Monitoring and Planning

a. Permitting & Enforcement

Type of Permit	2014		2013	
	September	YTD	September	Annual Total
Renewal of Existing Air Permits	108	750	119	1339
New Authorities to Construct	11	91	6	88
Dust Control Permits	9 (67 acres)	92 (947 acres)	7 (112 acres)	105 (1420 acres)
Wood Stove Certificates	18	255	39	329
WS Dealers Affidavit of Sale	4 (2 replaced)	68 (45 stoves removed)	6 (4 replacements)	134 (83 replacements);
WS Notice of Exemptions	519 (5 stoves removed)	5099 (53 stoves removed)	939 (11 stoves removed)	7346 (83 stoves removed)
Asbestos Assessments	76	609	65	828
Asbestos Demo and Removal (NESHAP)	11	148	16	199

Staff reviewed twenty six (26) sets of plans submitted to the Reno, Sparks or Washoe County Building Departments to assure the activities complied with Air Quality requirements.

- There have been 2 inquiries for potential new facilities investigating moving to the area solely in response to and in support of the new proposed Tesla factory. In addition, one existing facility has submitted an application for a modification to their existing air permit to add new production for the Tesla facility, and another that is investigating possibly adding process capabilities for Tesla.
- Permitting staff in cooperation with DRI has performed basic air sampling at a medical marijuana cultivation facility located in Truckee, California. The sampling consisted of collecting known quantities of air at a known rate from within the cultivation facility. Two sampling days were selected to attempt to capture the highest potential emission days based on the growth cycle of the plants. These samples are currently being analyzed by DRI. The data will provide the permitting staff with crucial emission factors for the permitting of the cultivation facilities.

COMPLAINTS	2014*		2013	
	September	YTD	September	Annual Total
Asbestos	2	18	0	18
Burning	0	4	1	8
Construction Dust	4	27	4	0
Dust Control Permit	0	13	2	7
General Dust	4	39	0	46
Diesel Idling	0	3	0	8
Odor	2	14	0	16
Spray Painting	0	4	2	5
Permit to Operate	0	25	2	55
Woodstove	0	8	1	16
TOTAL	12	155	12	209
NOV's	September	YTD	September	Annual Total
Warnings	1	26	1	46
Citations	1	8	1	40
TOTAL	2	34	2	86

*Discrepancies in totals between monthly reports can occur due to data entry delays.

Staff conducted fifty-seven (57) stationary source renewal inspections in September 2014. Staff also conducted inspections on asbestos removal and construction/dust projects.