

# **WRAP Membership Meeting**

**Boise, ID**

**May 29, 2014**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Air Quality Planning & Standards  
**Air Quality Assessment Division**

# Current/Ongoing OAQPS-AQAD technical analyses

- Given the continual review cycle, ozone and/or PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS technical analyses are almost always either in progress or in preparation to meet deadlines
  - We are currently doing national scale modeling to support the Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) for the upcoming ozone NAAQS proposal
- Working with Regional offices and other Federal Agencies on updates to Appendix W for single source near-field and long range impact assessments
  - May impact some future New Source Review (NSR) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) permit projects
- Reviewing the speciated PM<sub>2.5</sub> national monitor network
  - Restructure Chemical Speciation Network to maximize operations with reduced resources
  - IMPROVE network for Regional Haze not directly affected
- National Air Toxics Assessment for 2011 is underway
  - Air quality modeling of numerous hazardous air pollutants including mercury

# OAQPS-AQAD Current and Planned Coordination with western U.S.

- Continued participation in WRAP/EPA technical modeling workshops
  - found the information exchange at the workshops in 2011 and 2013 and establishment of staff level workgroups an important way to coordinate technical work and ideas
  - intend to support the continuation of this technical workshop series and participate in a 2015 meeting.
- We hope to work with WRAP to hold a workshop in RTP this fall specifically on oil & gas and fire related issues.
- Continue topic related workgroups
  - OAQPS/AQAD and Region 8 continue to work with Utah on the “Cold Pool Meteorology” workgroup
  - stratospheric ozone intrusion workgroup
  - exceptional events workgroup.
- Continue working with WRAP to improve National Emission Inventory for sectors key for western U.S. air quality modeling

# Important Western U.S. Issues

- OAQPS/AQAD considers the current and projected nonattainment areas for ozone and PM2.5 in the western U.S. to be issues of critical importance
- Many of these areas share commonalities and could benefit from a more collective approach
  - These commonalities include the complex influence of winter time meteorology, certain emissions sectors such as residential fuel combustion, oil & gas, agricultural ammonia, and mobile
- Areas close to nonattainment such as Yakima could benefit from preparing and studying improved emissions inventory and meteorological modeling approaches to help develop strategies to avoid nonattainment

# Important Technical Work

- Continue improving key emissions sectors and consistency in emissions inventory development among western U.S. States, which includes
- Cyclical base year inventories (e.g. 2008, 2011, 2014 National Emission Inventories (NEIs))
- Growth and control factors for projected future year emissions
  - How do we project oil & gas emissions, wild fires, and residential fuel combustion?
  - How pervasive and effective are smoke management programs and State/local agency burn bans in the western U.S.?
- Important sectors include (but are not limited to) residential fuel combustion, ammonia, oil & gas exploration, mobile sources, and wildfires
- Emissions work important for required modeling of regional haze and SIP attainment, inter-jurisdiction transport studies, and other needed air quality assessments

# Important Technical Work

- Continue development of credible tools to assist in exceptional events determinations related to wildfire emissions and stratospheric ozone intrusion
- Consider comprehensive assessments of air quality monitor networks in the western United States
- Promote the western States as candidates for future field campaigns to explore critical science issues and to supplement the routine monitor networks for comprehensive model evaluation
  - Examples include California in 2010 (CALNEX), Denver Front Range DISCOVER-AQ coming up this summer, recent Uintah Basin winter field intensive campaigns, and Upper Green River Basin field work
  - Future field campaigns could focus on specific areas like Salt Lake City or be sector specific missions rather than focusing on specific areas; fires, oil & gas, agricultural activities, etc.