

SOUTHWEST CLEAN AIR AGENCY

Board of Directors Meeting
June 6, 2024, at 3:00 PM
Southwest Clean Air Agency
5101 NE 82nd Ave Ste 101
Vancouver, WA 98662

This meeting will be held by video conference using Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82154159897>

Meeting ID: 821 5415 9897

Or call in by phone (669) 900-9128.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
SWCAA Chair Alan Melnick
- II. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum
SWCAA Chair Alan Melnick
- III. Board of Directors Minutes
Board of Directors Minutes – May Meeting
- IV. Changes to the Agenda
SWCAA Chair Alan Melnick
- V. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Vouchers
 - B. Financial Report
 - C. Monthly Activity Report
- V. Info Items & Public Comment
None
- VII. Public Hearing
None

VIII. Unfinished Business/New Business

A. **Addition of Juneteenth as a SWCAA Holiday**

Summary - In 2022, the Washington legislature made Juneteenth (June 19) a state legal holiday commemorating the abolishment of slavery and the day that the knowledge of freedom reached the last remaining enslaved people in 1865. Juneteenth also became a federal legal holiday in 2021.

[RCW 1.16.050](#) establishes the Washington State legal holidays when state offices are closed. Most local governments follow the state holiday schedule although they are not required to do so. Under [RCW 1.16.050\(6\)](#), the legislative body of each local government has the discretion to adopt more or fewer paid holidays.

Recommendation – Add Juneteenth as a holiday for SWCAA to better align with the Washington State holiday schedule.

B. **Cancellation of July Board of Directors Meeting**

Summary -The July Board has historically been canceled due to its proximity to the fourth of July holiday. This year’s meeting would be on the fourth of July. The Washington Clean Air Act requires that the Board of Directors meet at least 10 times per year. Six meetings have been held through the June Board meeting.

Recommendation - Cancel the July Board of Directors meeting.

C. **Washington State Audit**

SWCAA underwent the following audits:

- Accountability audit for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023
- Financial statement audit for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023
- Air Operating Permit Program - Agreed Upon Procedures for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023

SWCAA’s audit resulted in no findings nor management recommendations.

The audit reports are published and available on the Washington State Auditor’s website: <https://sao.wa.gov/reports-data/audit-reports>.

IX. Executive Director’s Report

A. **EPA Releases Power Sector Programs Progress Report For 2022 (May 20, 2024) -**

EPA released its latest “Power Sector Progress Report,” summarizing the environmental results of the agency’s Acid Rain Program, series of Cross-State Air Pollution Rules and the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards through 2022. The report is presented in an interactive format highlighting reductions in emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide and hazardous air pollutants and information illustrating improvements in air quality, acid deposition and ecosystem response. Among the results presented by EPA are that 1) ambient particulate sulfate concentrations in the eastern U.S. have decreased by 51 to 84

percent in observed regions from 1989–1991 to 2020–2022; 2) seven of the 22 areas in the eastern U.S. designated as nonattainment for ozone now show concentrations below the level of the 2015 standard, and an additional eight areas have made progress toward meeting the standard and 3) 35 areas in the eastern U.S. originally designated nonattainment for PM2.5 now show concentrations below the level of the 1997 PM2.5 standard (15.0 µg/m³). For further information: <https://www.epa.gov/power-sector/progress-report>

B. States Challenge EPA’s Final Rule Setting Phase 3 Heavy-Duty GHG Emission Standards (May 13, 2024) - Two petitions challenging EPA’s “Final Rule: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards or Heavy-Duty Vehicles – Phase 3,” were filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. In the first, 24 state petitioners write that they “will show that the final rule exceeds the agency’s statutory authority and otherwise is arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, and not in accordance with law.” Petitioners are the Attorneys General of Nebraska, Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia and Wyoming. The second petition was filed by members of the Arizona State Senate; House of Representatives; and the Arizona Trucking Association. The petitioners contend that the final Phase 3 Rule “exceeds EPA’s statutory authority and is arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, and otherwise not in accordance with law.” All petitioners ask that the court declare it unlawful and vacate EPA’s final action. For further information: https://www.4cleanair.org/wp-content/uploads/Litigation-EPA_Final_Phase3_Rule-States_Petition_for_Review-051324.pdf

C. Latest ALA “State of the Air” Report Finds One in Four Americans Still Breathes Unhealthy Air (April 24, 2024) - The American Lung Association (ALA) has released its annual State of the Air Report analyzing 2023 data. The State of the Air report tracks particle pollution and ozone. The latest report concludes that 130 million Americans still breathe unhealthy air, and that climate change is undoing the gains in air pollution made under the Clean Air Act. The setbacks in the Western United States were particularly stark due to wildfires: the 25 cities with the worst short-term particle pollution in the report were all in the Western U.S. People of color are 2.3 times as likely as white people to live in a place that gets failing grades for short and long-term particle pollution and ozone, according to the report. While wildfires made the picture more challenging for short term and annual particle pollution, ozone pollution has generally improved across the nation. The State of the Air report has documented “a dramatic improvement in ozone pollution over the last 25 years.” In the most recent edition, 2.4 million fewer people lived in areas with unhealthy ozone pollution compared to last year’s report, but more than 100 million people (nearly 30 percent) still live in areas with failing grades for ozone, according to ALA. Clark County was graded as an A for ozone pollution, and an F grade for particulate matter pollution. The report lists the County as having 13 unhealthy air days between 2020-2023 due to particulate matter. Nearly all the days identified had elevated levels due to wildfire smoke. For further information: <https://www.lung.org/research/sota>

X. Board Policy Discussion Issues
As Necessary

XI. Issues for Upcoming Meetings
None

XII. Adjourn

Notes:

(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 110.