



EAST-WEST GATEWAY
Council of Governments

Creating Solutions Across Jurisdictional Boundaries

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AGENDA
AIR QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE*
TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2024
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
In Person at East-West Gateway and Virtual

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://meet.goto.com/203620549>

Access Code: 203-620-549

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- I. Call to Order**
 - Carol Lawrence, Chair, East-West Gateway Council of Governments
 - A. Minutes of the May 28, 2024 Meeting
- II. St. Louis County Air Pollution Control Activities**
 - Aaron Cadman, St. Louis County Department of Health
- III. Update on the Missouri VW Settlement Funds and Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) Program**
 - Alicia Daniels, Missouri Department of Natural Resources
- IV. American Fuels Report**
 - Kevin Herdler, St. Louis Clean Cities and Communities
- V. Update on the Activities of the States**
 - Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
 - Missouri Department of Natural Resources
- VI. Other Business & Adjournment**
 - Next meeting will be on August 27, 2024

* Please note that this meeting will serve as a part of the Inter-Agency Consultation Process as detailed in the Missouri Transportation Conformity SIP.

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MINUTES
AIR QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, May 28, 2024
10:00 am – 11:30 am
VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON MEETING

Members Present:

Carol Lawrence, Chair – East-West Gateway Council of Governments
Kevin Jemison – Illinois Department of Transportation
Susannah Fuchs – American Lung Association
Cecelie Cochran – Federal Highway Administration Missouri
Michael Henderson – Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Alicia Daniels – Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Guosen Chen – Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Mary Foshage – City of St. Louis Department of Health
Karen Troxell – Citizens for Modern Transit
Betsy Tracy – Federal Highway Administration

Others Present:

Stacy Allen - Ameren
Jason Heitman – Environmental Protection Agency Region 7
Thomas Caldwell – Illinois Department of Transportation
Steven Donatiello – Ameren
Holly Du
Matt Turner – City of St. Louis Department of Health
Kim Vanden Berg – City of St. Louis Department of Health
Adel Alsharafi – Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Mark Leath – Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Staff:

Mary Grace Lewandowski, Maureen McCarthy

1. Call to Order

- Carol Lawrence, Chair, East-West Gateway Council of Governments

The meeting of the Air Quality Advisory Committee (AQAC) was called to order by Chair Carol Lawrence, East-West Gateway Council of Governments (EWG). The minutes of the March 26, 2024 AQAC meeting were approved as circulated.

2. City of St. Louis Air Pollution Control Program Activities

- Mary Foshage, City of St. Louis

Climate change is projected to harm human health by increasing ground-level ozone and/or particulate matter air pollution in some locations. Air pollution has been linked with disease or damage to the lungs in the form of asthma, bronchitis, and emphysema. There is also increasing evidence that air pollution contributes to heart attacks and strokes, diabetes, and dementia. Microscopic pollutants in the air can slip past the body's defenses, penetrating deep into the respiratory and circulatory system and damaging the lungs, heart, and brain. Around the world, nine out of 10 people breathe unhealthy air. Air pollution is now the biggest environmental risk for early death, responsible for more than six million premature deaths each year from heart attacks, strokes, diabetes, and respiratory diseases.

The current air pollution program in the City of St. Louis was created in 2017 through an agreement with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MoDNR), giving the City oversight on specific air pollution issues. Air Pollution Control Ordinance 71332 regulates the removal and abatement of asbestos during demolitions, air pollution nuisance complaints, motor vehicle idling, and open burning. The ordinance requires posting the permits on the City's Air Pollution Control Program web page and requiring property owners to hire their own asbestos inspector. Citizens can report concerns to the Citizens' Service Bureau with subsequent action, and sunshine requests can be made on the City website.

The City has the first fully online notification system for permits in the State. It includes online payment and allows for real-time uploads and status updates. All notifications must be entered into the system. Ordinance 71332 was developed to work with the existing database of the Building Division and allows for the levy of fines for certain violations. The online notification system is set up so that new notifications cannot be submitted unless all fines are paid.

The Air Pollution Control Program collaborates with partners in an effort to be accurate, equitable, and just in their actions. Partners include STL Vacancy Collaborative, STL City Permits, MoDNR, OSHA, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

3. American Lung Association's State of the Air Report

- Susannah Fuchs, American Lung Association

The American Lung Association (ALA) partnered with local agencies to develop the St. Louis Regional Clean Air Partnership. The Partnership runs the air quality forecasting in the metro area from spring to fall. The mission of the ALA is to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease through education, research, and advocacy. Their strategic imperatives are defeating lung cancer, championing clean air, improving the quality of life for those with lung disease and their families, and creating a tobacco-free future.

The most recent State of the Air Report, which first began 25 years ago, is a tool that ranks cities and gives grades based on ozone and particulate matter (PM) levels. Each report is based on data gathered in three-year periods from monitors under the jurisdiction of the EPA or the local air authority. This data is used to educate people on air quality and encourage actions communities can take to work toward clean air. The most recent report is based on the data from 2020 - 2022. The report organizes the data by state, county, and zip code, allowing you to compare different regions. According to the report, the most polluted county in the metro area is Madison County, which is closely followed by the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County. Regionally, the area is ranked 30 for ozone pollution and 33 for year-round PM. There is a push from many entities to get more monitors placed because they know that if there is no monitor, it doesn't mean there is no air pollution.

The report can be found at <https://www.lung.org/research/sota>

4. PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standard Designation Process in Missouri and Illinois

- Alicia Daniels, Missouri Department of Natural Resources
- Guosen Chen, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Earlier this year, the EPA strengthened the primary (health-based) annual standard for fine particles (PM_{2.5}) from 12.0 to 9.0 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). EPA retained all other PM standards: primary (health-based) and secondary (welfare-based) 24-hour PM_{2.5} standards stay at 35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$; primary and secondary 24-hour PM₁₀ standards stay at 150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$; and the secondary annual PM_{2.5} standard stays at 15.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

Preliminary 2021-2023 air quality monitoring data design values (DV) indicate only one monitor in Missouri violates the PM_{2.5} annual standard: the Blair Street monitor (9.6 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) in the City of St. Louis. Missouri is evaluating whether to prepare and submit an Exceptional Events (EE) Demonstration to EPA due to Canadian wildfires in late May and June 2023 that may have affected monitors in Missouri. Several monitors in the state of Illinois and the state of Kansas also violate the standard.

To prepare attainment and nonattainment boundary recommendations, the Air Pollution Control Program (APCP) will utilize EPA's February 7, 2024, "Memorandum on the Area Designations for the 2024 Revised Annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS" document to conduct a Five-Factor Analysis of air quality (monitoring) data: emissions and emissions-related data, meteorological data, geography/topography, and jurisdictional boundaries.

There was a recent manufacturing software update to the PM_{2.5} monitors, and many states are retroactively applying this update to previous data. Illinois EPA plans to do the same before considering next year’s designation recommendations for PM_{2.5}. Illinois EPA has set a February deadline for reevaluating the data.

EPA’s Designations Timeline	
Milestone	Date
EPA promulgates 2024 PM_{2.5} Annual Standard	February 7, 2024
States submit area designation recommendations	No later than February 6, 2025
EPA notifies states/tribes regarding any intended modifications to their recommendations (120-day letters)	No later than October 9, 2025
The EPA publishes public notice of availability of state recommendations and the EPA’s intended modifications, if any, and initiates 30-day public comment period	Mid-October 2025
End of 30-day public comment period	Mid-November 2025
States/tribes submit additional information, if any, to respond to EPA’s modifications of a recommended designation	Mid-December 2025
EPA promulgates final 2024 PM_{2.5} Health-Based Standard area designations	February 6, 2026

EPA’s Exceptional Events Timeline		
Action	Anticipated Deadline	Applicable Data Year
Initial notifications for intent to submit exceptional events demonstrations for the purpose of initial area designations recommendations	No later than January 1, 2025	2021, 2022, 2023
Exceptional Events demonstration submittal	No later than February 7, 2025	2021, 2022, 2023
State and Tribal initial area designations recommendations	No later than February 7, 2025	2021, 2022, 2023
Initial notification and exceptional events demonstration submittal	No later than September 30, 2025	2024
The EPA sends out 120-day Letters for initial area designations	October 9, 2025	2022, 2023, 2024
The EPA promulgates final 2024 PM_{2.5} NAAQS area designations	February 6, 2026	2022, 2023, 2024

Air Program Timeline (Tentative)	
Milestone	Date
Proposed Area Designation Recommendation Document	November 2024
Public Comment Period Opens	November 4, 2024
Public Hearing	December 5, 2024
Adoption	January 30, 2025
EPA Submittal	Early February 2025

5. Update on the Activities of the States

- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Illinois EPA will submit the Regional Haze SIP this week to EPA Region 5 and is working on the second progress report for Regional Haze. Finally, the NOx RACT rule revisions are anticipated to be filed with the Illinois Pollution Control Board within the next few weeks as well.

- Missouri Department of Natural Resources

There is a tentative public hearing date in August for the asbestos and emissions fee rules at the Missouri Air Conservation Commission (MACC) meeting. This includes asbestos rules 10 CSR 10-6.241 and 10 CSR 6.250 and the emission and permit fee rule makings 10 CSR 10-6.060 and 10 CSR 10 10-6.065, and there is also 10 CSR 10-6.110. The rulemaking needed for the air program to take on the delegation of authority to prepare risk management plans for the agriculture anhydrous ammonia facilities is also currently scheduled for a public hearing in August. The tentative date of the public hearing for the statewide sulfur dioxide rule amendment, which is 10 CSR 10-6.261, has been moved to the September MACC meeting. The public hearing for the interstate transport plan for the 2010 SO₂ standard will be held in August.

MoDNR is to add a new state 111(d) plan to control greenhouse gas emissions from existing power plants. The state plan is due in May 2026, which is two years from the publication date. MoDNR also submitted the competitive implementation grant application to the EPA before the April 1st deadline.

MoDNR also has the Diesel Emission Reduction Grant (DERA) application that should be available the first week of June. The next MACC meeting will be on Thursday, July 25 in Jefferson City.

6. Other Business

This afternoon, there is a OneSTL Sustainability Lab at T-Rex that will focus on food waste reduction strategies.

EWG has begun updating the St. Louis regional hazard mitigation plan that presents information about natural disasters, levels of risk, and strategies local governments, school districts, and special districts can take to reduce or mitigate the adverse effects of natural hazards such as flooding or tornadoes. To make this update a success, we need input from the public, as well as jurisdictions and districts that will be part of the plan. EWG has released a survey for the public to ask what kind of hazards they think they've experienced and what they think would be beneficial mitigation strategies. This can be found on the EWG website, in addition to more information about natural hazards and the hazard mitigation plan.

7. Adjournment

The next meeting will be on June 25, 2024. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.