AGENDA: Air Quality Protection in the West

University of Colorado Boulder. Natural Resources Law Center

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Air Quality Protection in the West
November 27-28, 1989

Monday, November 27, 1989

8:30 Welcome

8:40 Keynote Address
To be announced

Issue: Visibility, Ozone, Acid Rain, Long Distance Transport

9:15 Diminishing Views: Air Quality in Western National Parks
Christine Shaver, National Park Service Air Quality Division, Denver
Air pollution causes varying degrees of visibility impairment at all national parks virtually all the time. Biological resources are also being affected by pollution. Causes and effects of air pollution in national parks will be discussed, as well as actions being taken to remedy existing problems and prevent future deterioration.

9:40 Regional Air Quality Concerns in the West: Acid Deposition and Ozone
Dr. Kathy Tonnessen, Research Division, Air Resources Board, Sacramento, Calif.
Emissions from mobile and stationary sources result in the formation of two air pollutants of regional importance in parts of the western U.S.: acid deposition and ozone. Pollution sources, transformation and effects will be discussed, with emphasis on results of research and monitoring activities in California.

10:05 Questions and Discussion

10:30 Break

10:50 Transboundary Air Pollution: The Legal Framework
Prof. Mark Squillace, University of Wyoming College of Law, Laramie, Wyo.
Much has been written about transnational air pollution, particularly as it relates to the U.S. contribution to acid rain problems in Canada. The current legal framework for handling such problems will be discussed. Conflicts among individual states have received less attention but pose a potentially more significant problem. The presentation will review the inadequate legal framework that currently exists for addressing such conflicts, and make suggestions for improving the current system.

11:45 Lunch
On your own

1:15 Acid Rain Litigation: Strategies to Overcome Agency Recalcitrance Under the Federal Clean Air Act
David R. Wooley, Assistant Attorney General, New York State Department of Law, Albany, NY
The Interstate, International, Tall Stack, National Standards and Visibility provisions of the Clean Air Act could be used by EPA to halt or significantly reduce acid rain in the Eastern States. An eight year litigation campaign is described and related to efforts to pass Clean Air Act amendments on acid rain.

2:00 Proposed Legislation
To be announced

2:45 Break

Issue: Air Toxics

3:05 Toxic Air Pollution: Old Problems, New Solutions?
Dr. Devra Davis, Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC
The proposed Clean Air Act revisions feature maximum achievable control technology for many sources of toxic air pollution. The relative merits of this approach and other approaches to control toxic air pollutants will be discussed, along with the rationale for singling out toxic pollutants.

3:45 Proposed Legislation
To be announced

4:20 Questions and discussion

4:45 Reception

Tuesday, November 28, 1989

Issue: Urban Air Pollution

8:30 Urban Ambient Air Quality Trends in the Western U.S.
Ogden Gerald, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Durham, NC
This presentation will provide a summary of urban ambient air quality trends in the western U.S. Background information will be provided regarding ambient air monitoring procedures and regulatory mechanisms and air quality control strategies for correcting air quality problems.

9:05 Health Effects of Pollutants
Robert A. Bethel, M.D., Asst. Prof. of Medicine, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Denver
This paper will discuss the health effects of the common air pollutants, emphasizing the effects of ambient sulfur dioxide and ozone on sensitive subpopulations.
Motor Vehicle Air Pollution Control: The Remaining Issues

Michael P. Walsh, Consultant, Washington, DC

Motor vehicles were identified by Congress in 1970 as the dominant air pollution source in the United States; in spite of a great deal of progress, the same conclusion would be accurate today. Continued growth in both the number and use of vehicles, poor control of emissions during the second half of a car's life, and only limited control outside boundaries of the federal test are some of the major shortcomings. In addition, new problems not anticipated in 1970 have emerged.

Denver Oxygenated Fuel Program: A Case Study

Jerry Gallagher, Mobile Sources Program, Colorado Department of Health, Denver

The Department of Health has been investigating the benefits of oxygenated fuels since 1980. The requirement of oxygen in gasoline as a means to reduce CO was implemented for the first time in the U.S. Results of CO reduction, air quality trade-offs, and policy issues will be presented.

Urban Air Quality Litigation Under the Clean Air Act: Past, Present and Future

David S. Baron, Arizona Center for Law, Tucson, AZ

In response to the failure of many cities to meet clean air standards, advocacy groups are increasingly turning to the courts to force adoption of the tough control measures needed for attainment. This presentation will review the Clean Air Act's current requirements for urban nonattainment areas, and how the courts are enforcing those requirements now that the deadlines for attainment have passed.

Air Quality Protection in the West

November 27-28, 1989

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AIR QUALITY PROTECTION IN THE WEST
November 1989

Index of Papers

A. "Urban Air Quality Litigation Under the Clean Air Act: Past, Present and Future," David S. Baron, Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest, Tucson, Arizona

B. "Health Effects of Air Pollutants (Sulfur dioxide, ozone, and carbon monoxide)," Robert A. Bethel, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Colorado, Health Sciences Center, and National Jewish Center, Denver, Colorado

C. "Toxic Air Pollution: Environmentalism with an Industrial Face," Dr. Devra Davis, Director, Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC

D. "Denver Oxygenated Fuel Program: a Case Study," Jerry Gallagher, Manager, Mobile Sources Program, Colorado Department of Health, Denver, Colorado

E. "Urban Ambient Air Quality Trends," N. Ogden Gerald, Monitoring Section Chief, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC

F. "Diminishing Views: Air Quality in Western National Parks," Christine Shaver, National Park Service-Air, Denver, Colorado

G. "Transboundary Air Pollution: The Legal Framework," Professor Mark S. Squillace, University of Wyoming College of Law, Laramie, Wyoming

H. "Regional Air Quality Concerns in the West: Acid Deposition and Ozone," Kathy A. Tonnessen, Ph.D., California Air Resources Board Research Division, Sacramento, California


K. "To the U.S. Department of Transportation: Comments of the Environmental Defense Funds on the Secretary of Transportation's National Transportation Policy," Robert E. Yuhinke, Environmental Defense Fund, Boulder, Colorado