

Notes of March 22, 2018 Study Management Team (SMT) Call

1. Roll Call

Call participants included: John Bunyak, Mary Uhl, Tom Moore, Melissa Hovey, Chris Owen, Rebecca Matichuk, Cathe Kalisz, and Doug Blewitt

Melissa Hovey is a new addition to the SMT. Melissa is an Air Resource Specialist with the BLM WY State Office located in Cheyenne, WY. She is also the Contract Officer's Representative (COR) for the funding that BLM has provided to WESTAR to help with the NO₂ Drill Rig Project.

2. Working Relationship between EPA work group participants and WESTAR contractors (Chris/Tom)

Chris and Tom framed the issue and lead the discussion on this topic. Chris mentioned that he provides general EPA oversight for the NO₂ Drill Rig Project and that EPA personnel are chairs of the Colorado and Alaska Work Groups (Rebecca Matichuk and Leiran Biton, respectively). Chris indicated that since the WESTAR contractors (John Bunyak, Doug Blewitt) are not EPA contractors, EPA staff cannot provide them direct guidance on their work. Tom indicated that WESTAR's role under the BLM grant is to facilitate the successful fulfillment of the project. Tom also mentioned that products and recommendations should be provided to the SMT for approval. Melissa indicated that as the COR she intends to provide the technical direction and guidance needed for the project, and will coordinate with EPA as necessary in this regard. To help Melissa to come up to speed on the project, she will review relevant work group products and engage in SMT and work group calls as needed. She will then be in position to provide the needed direction to John and Doug. In the meantime, John will continue his coordination activities with the Work Group, and help prepared the respective CO and AK study reports. Once Doug's contract is signed (expected soon), he will provide his unique perspective and skill set to assist in the successful conclusion of the project.

3. Updates

a. CO Work Group (Rebecca)

Rebecca mentioned that the work group is continuing its efforts to quality assure and identify "good days" of data to be used in the model evaluation step. The work group is conducting model simulations to compare the results to the data collected. They are also looking into NO_x chemistry and how that affects the results. Rebecca also indicated that she prepared outlines for two potential papers regarding the study. The first paper will describe the physical details of the study and an air quality modeling database that was developed to support future air quality analyses for oil and gas operations. (Note: an initial draft of this "Database" report has been prepared and is a work-in-progress). A list of all of the analyses conducted by the Colorado Work Group and the identified person responsible for documenting the work is undergoing internal work group review. The second paper would describe the data collected in terms of NO_x

ratios and the test data in AERMOD to understand the model's sensitivity to the different chemistry schemes.

b. AK Work Group (John)

Leiran (Chair) could not join the call, so John provided the update for the AK Work Group. Leiran mentioned on a previous call that there are about 25 hours in the AK dataset that were not influenced by transient sources at the drill site. Leiran has been doing some additional analyses of these hours. His review indicates that some of those 25 hours may have additional transient sources that were not identified in the camera image review. He also found that the source strength may have been underestimated and that there are some issues with the dispersion characteristics, and the plume maximum location. He is continuing to look into these issues.

Regarding the draft study report, folks are continuing to review and edit the working draft version that is on the project's GoogleDrive site. The purpose of the report is to document the Work Group's data analysis efforts and to form the basis for a journal article regarding the study. The "Background" and "Field Studies" sections are looking pretty good. However, there are still lots of gaps regarding specific work group activities, conclusions and recommendations. The Work Group is working on a list of all of the analyses that were performed and identifying the responsible person to prepare the write-up. This will be discussed and finalized on the next work group call. The work group will then come up with a schedule to complete the report.

4. Other

Cathe reminded folks that Anadarko has not yet decided whether they want to include data that identifies the location of the two drill sites. Anadarko will not be able to make that decision until they have reviewed the final CO data set.

5. Next steps/Action Items

a. Rebecca and Leiran will continue the Colorado and Alaska Workgroups data analysis and review efforts to fine-tune the data. The Workgroup will continue efforts to finalize their respective study papers.

b. John will provide Melissa the links to specific CO work group documents that Rebecca distributed previously.

c. Chris will work with Melissa to get her access to the project's GoogleDrive site. Chris will also arrange a call with Melissa to discuss the ongoing work group activities in more detail.

d. Melissa will review relevant project documents and provide any needed technical direction to John and Doug moving forward.

e. John will upload these meeting notes to the project page on the WRAP website.