

Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMP) Committee
***DRAFT* Meeting Minutes**
Monday, December 2, 2013; 1:30 p.m.
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Conference Room 3175
1110 W. Washington St., Phoenix, Arizona, 85007
Call-in Number: (877) 820-7831, pin #274431

Committee members present: Brett Cameron, Clint Hickman, Eric Massey, Earl Petznick Jr., Kevin Rogers, Dan Thelander (Chair), Tom Thompson, Jim Walworth, Bill Wiley, and Will Rousseau.

Additional attendees: Lisa Tomczak, Danielle Hazeltine, Kazi Haque, Rick Lavis, Randy Sedlacek, Nick Simonetta, Lynn Korn, Bryan Paris, Ryan Templeton, Steve Calderon, and Rusty Van Leuven.

Welcome

Chairman Thelander opened the meeting, welcomed everyone, asked Committee members to identify themselves and noted a quorum was present, Chairman Thelander stated the intent of the meeting was primarily to discuss and adopt and revise the Best Management Practices (BMPs) and discuss the Proposed BMP Rule for Pinal County.

Discussion over the adoption of Revised Best Management Practices

Rick Lavis, Arizona Cotton Growers, suggested that the handouts passed out titled “Commercial Dairy Operation” with EPA suggestions to remove “approximate” and change some minor percentages are looked at by the Committee rather than the other “Commercial Dairy Operation” handout without comments. Mr. Lavis encouraged the Committee to adopt the BMPs because of the short time frame and can be revised later. Danielle Hazeltine, ADEQ Legal Support, reminded the Committee that there were minor changes within the Tillage and Harvest category. Cross Wind Strip- Cropping was removed completely, Mulching was combined with Organic Material Application, and Integrated Pest Management was removed. A motion to adopt these revisions was made and seconded; motion passed.

Discussion on Proposed BMP Rule for Pinal County

Ryan Templeton and Bryan Paris, ADEQ Air Quality, provided explanations on stagnation and high wind days for the Maricopa, Cowtown, Stanfield and Pinal County Housing monitors. Stagnation and high wind were both modeled for Cowtown, Stanfield and Pinal County Housing, while high wind was modeled only for Maricopa. At Pinal County Housing, there were three design days for stagnation and four design days for high wind. Stanfield was used as the control for stagnation and Pinal County Housing was used as the control for high wind. The highest efficiency BMP for unpaved private, agricultural, and county roads modeled attainment for stagnation. As the rule is currently written, attainment was not reached for high wind. Mr. Templeton noted this modeling was conducted during tillage/harvest in the fall. A suggestion was offered that ADEQ create a pie chart reflecting land use for each of the four areas in addition to a percentage.

Ms. Hazeltine suggested that tillage and harvest could be separated into two separate categories and farmers could pick one BMP from each category. Non-cropland could separate out commercial farmer

roads and farmers would pick one BMP from each category. Cropland could also be divided into a low and high efficiency category and farmers could pick one from each.

Kevin Rogers, Committee Member, asked to clarify the definition of an agricultural road. There are agricultural, county, and private and dirt roads based on ownership. Mr. Rogers suggested it would be helpful to develop maps of unpaved roads based on ownership. Eric Massey, ADEQ Air Quality Director, said that ADEQ could develop these maps.

Mr. Templeton explained that silt samples were gathered by ADEQ and Pinal County and the analysis showed that agricultural and private unpaved roads had approximately the same silt content. Percentages for the pie chart were based on agricultural roads using a trip count based on the type of equipment used on an average size farm. This number was divided by the number of roadways on that farm. Contractors obtained traffic counts on public roadways and ADEQ used the average for each roadway.

A question was asked regarding the distance from the monitor that was taken into account for ADEQ's results. Mr. Templeton stated that for stagnation the domain, or the rectangle pattern boundary, was up to four kilometers away from the monitor, but actual distance depended on the design day, wind speeds and types of sources near the monitor. For high wind it was about six kilometers or four miles.

Mr. Templeton mentioned that there were no exceedances for the high wind design days at any of the monitors. Chairman Thelander said that it looked like ADEQ picked the worst possible day to monitor. Mr. Templeton explained that if they all had exceedances, then it would be considered a regional high wind event. This approach shows the unique conditions for the area that drove the high PM for Pinal County Housing for that day. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires that ADEQ pick a worst day as part of their modeling. Mr. Templeton noted that stagnation is measured as a microgram per meter cubed value and that these types of days are harder to characterize than high wind days.

ADEQ noted that Chairman Thelander's term as Chair was up and he would either need to be re-elected or a new Chair elected. A motion was made that Dan Thelander continue as Chair, motion seconded; motion passed.

Summary of Action Items and Next Steps

- Add percentage of PM to each of the pie charts.
- Create a link that can be sent out to the committee with the new pie charts.
- Send out maps showing the location of agricultural roads and private roads to Committee.
- Develop draft rules with BMPs approved by the Committee (approximately 3-5 months).

Chairman Thelander asked if there were any additional comments or questions. Mr. Massey reiterated that ADEQ will send the maps and updated pie charts to Committee members. Ms. Hazeltine asked if a technical committee should be formed for Pinal or if ADEQ should create a written draft then meet with the Committee to make any revisions.

Adjournment

Chairman Thelander asked for any final comments. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.