



**Bulkley District
 DRAFT Minutes**

Date: September 16, 2003

Location: Pacific Inland Resources

Attendance (√) Regrets (X) Guests (G) Alternate (A):

√	Biz Bastian	X	Harold Kerr
√	Brian Northrup	√	Ian Sharpe
X	Charlie Northrup	√	Laurie Gallant (Scribe)
√	Christine Rigby	X	Lorne Clarke
X	Dave Duncan	X	Paul Schwarz
A	Dave Evans	√	Roger Smith
√	Dave Stevens (Chair)	X	Sita Then (withdrew)
X	David Butt	A	Gary Quanstrom
√	Eugen Wittner	√	Ben Weinstein
G	Gina LaHaye	G	Rick Taylor

Jargon and Acronyms:

Documents distributed or Presentations at meeting:

Burn It Smart workshop posters
 June Minutes
 Agenda
 Goals and Indicators page from Website (Sept 16)
 PIR Beehive Burner Presentation Notes

Start Time: 7:00pm

Agenda:

Welcome and Introductions
 Review Agenda & Adopt Minutes
 PIR Beehive Burner Operations and Phase Out Plan
 Goals and Indicators discussion
 Wisdom Circle/Community Input
 Review old Action Items
 Health Research Update
 Reports from RWG and other CWGs

Decision Points, Sticky Points and Other Important Notes:

Status of Plan: Timelines for Sept – community groups and RWG developing strategies for reducing emissions

RWG – met twice over summer; two recs: 1. Exemptions that consider smoke emissions – letter to be sent to District Managers that provide exemptions for burns that impact our airshed.

2. Custom Forecasting based on VI for pile burning. Many advantages of this system over blunt forecasting system currently provided by Env't Canada with the 1 –900 number.

- what is the science behind this? How accurate will this be? Will the forecasts be signed off by someone in case forecasts are not accurate and burning occurs?
- Wind direction will be an important factor – venting index custom forecasting will be an experiment – hoping that we can get smoke out of populated areas as a result; if this works we will write this into the Plan.

Emissions Inventory Topic of the Month

Purpose is to choose an emission source from the community inventory and hear technical information from operators and regulators, and questions from the community so that we can separate fact from fiction. Each emission source will be assigned goals and indicator for emission reductions in the Plan.

Presentation: Beehive Burners – Brian Northup, Electrical Supervisor for PIR

Written notes will be posted - PowerPoint presentation with burner images available upon request

Where there is smoke there is an army of personnel

- New goal is zero emissions
- Since late 80's new regs have required certified opacity readers on staff, which they have
- Have been searching for alternatives for brown wood disposal
- Alternatives explored include co-gen, barkboard, onsite heating systems, biofuel, briquette plant
- Have market for white wood with Eurocan, local farmers, and NewPro.
- Damper controls vary by wood species and moisture content – open and close at specific temperatures
- Run their burner hotter than other operators which creates higher maintenance costs but results in close to zero opacity readings
- Quick startup and shutdown is the performance standard
- Still need some white wood for maintaining temperature.
- Have disassembled shavings system since most of the shavings are used for other purposes.

Questions

- Biz: why does smoke billow out of the sides of burner? This happens when burner is not shut down properly. Human error.
- How often is burner reskinned? Every three years, twice as often as anyone else. Can we check on this to make sure it is getting done? Can we make recommendations as part of the Plan so that all burners are getting reskinned? How big of an effect does the skin have? Important, you must be able to control ALL sources of air going into the burner.
- Action: make note in Plan that we should consider recommendation for reskinning burners?
- Biz: recognizes that PIR mill has made a lot of efforts to reduce emissions, always has, and is a leader compared to some other mills
- Do mills ever voluntarily shut down during a Health Advisory? PIR does – did once last year at MELP request, a number of times base upon PIR's reading of weather and based on their monitoring of air quality – have to measure if impact will be better or worse by a shutdown.

Action: consider a recommendation regarding shutdowns during Health advisory if a positive difference would be made.

Frank Rhebergen used to make calls on when to shut down burners. His job needs to be filled – need to feel section head job before a Senior Pollution Prevention Officer job can be filled; right now they have a rotating Section Head.

- Eurocan takes about 1/3 of hog; none since strike – want to have a stockpile for fuel flow
- Can logyard waste be used? Have to be careful because of dirt content?
- Can hogfuel be made available to general public?

- Balsam generally not good for landscaping, also need to consider liabilities?
- What other options are there in the case of Plan A (EuroCan) or Plan B (Cogen) falls through? Is there a suite of options available that would make a dent in the volumes?
- What is Vanderhoof doing since their mill shutdown?
- Action: Dave to track down article that profiled Vanderhoof's solution
- Is there an annual emissions test? Newpro has a requirement through their permit – but burners use opacity tests as well as monitoring the live webcam
- Action: Ben to perform a magic trick that will help us do a better job of correlating emissions with operating variables and atmospheric conditions :-)
- Whatever happened to community heating option? Can we eliminate burners and woodstoves with one solution? What is the barrier – how come other communities can do it and we can't? Costs extremely high for community heating. Alternatives are cheaper. Woodwaste generated power is generally twice as much as hydro. Note: there will be a call for IPP from BC Hydro next March, Canfor lobbying for January instead so that construction can start in the spring.

Wisdom Circle:

- purpose is to open up scope of questions and hear from community
- Rick Taylor, Tsayta Aviation: glad to hear working committee exists – has a perspective to offer as a small aircraft pilot
- Have visual flight rules – more severe than commercial pilots – are operating under stressful conditions at this time of the year, because they don't know when burning is happening. Often have to either push through and endanger human lives, or turn around and land. Saw fresh burning happening today in valley – actually called into Flight Services and received info that licensees had reported burning intentions.
- Lighting fires can catalyze fog – costs private flight operators lots of money when they have to cancel or reschedule flights.
- Would like to be part of airshed planning group.
- Gary suggested that Flight Services be written into Smoke Management Plan as the agency to contact – can we contact Flight Services to ask for cooperation? Does smoke really create fog? Explanation given and confirmed by air quality meteorologists
- Ceiling height variable for TSA? This would be helpful – need to factor into logarithms of models. Action: follow up on this concept and apply to flight paths when doing flight condition checks. This could be a very innovative solution. Note that Smoke Mgmt Plans are different than Airshed Mgmt Plan.

Minutes Adopted.

Action Items Report

3. Biz- report not available. Documented patient visits over one year for respiratory problems – tried to correlate with air quality. Study petered out because sample size/community size is too small to make generalizations that are scientifically acceptable, but correlation was clear
– note that up to two years later effects of a bad AQ episode can show up – need longer time periods for study. Are there other studies we can read? Yes, check out BC Lung report, it does say that.
9. Hospital doesn't code emergency room visits – but may be able to ask local doctors to track cardio and respiratory related visits by day, and we could correlate with AQ episodes. Biz will follow up on this.
- 11 – need to identify appropriate communities; funding will be available for Phase 2 study follow up. Draft letter and send out to group before next meeting.
- 13 – Interim report for next month – cost analysis of various ways of getting wood. Ian will appoint someone to work with Dave.

Goals and Indicators

- Reduce baseline emissions, reduce number of peaks/episodes
- Primary and secondary indicators for each emission source and tailor by season
- Would like to develop about six indicators for each season by emission source working with other AQ scientists in the province
- May need longer period than 5 years for climatic trend factor

Recommendation: let scientists draft up highly specific indicators and before next meeting as prep work. (accepted as amended)

Action: visit website and send comments on current info.

Action: request results from quality of life survey.

Today’s Meeting Adjourned at: 9:30pm

Next meeting date (third Tuesday of each month): Oct 21, 2003

Next meeting location: Pacific Inland Resources

Agenda Items for next meeting:

Follow up on action items, Goals and Indicators, Emissions Inventory suggestion: road dust or another topic that is more timely? Wood burning appliances? Min. of Highways/Town reps to invite for road dust control?

Chair for next meeting: Paul or Brian **Scribe for next meeting:** Dave

	ACTION ITEMS	Who	Deadline	Status
1	Link to Environmental Appeal Board report 99-WAS-06/08	Laurie	Oct 15	Renew
2	Work on Goals and Indicators to continue. a) Develop about six indicators for each season by emission source working with other AQ scientists in the province. b) CWG members to help develop indicators and review website info. c) Laurie to develop new chart for website. d) Track down research and reports on indicators done in other jurisdictions.	CWG members to send ideas to Laurie. Ian to coordinate work with other scientists.	Oct 15	
3	Request results from quality of life survey.	Dave	Oct 15	
4	Emission inventory update onto web site?	Ben/Christine / Laurie	Oct 15	
5	NewPro Contribution to Community presentation and post it to web site. (carried forward – Richard Norton out of town)	Roger / Laurie	Oct 15	
7	Bring copy of PG Bylaw on woodstove burning – post link on web?	Ian / Laurie	Oct 15	
8	Jim Hofweber to present new Environmental Management Act as it affects our plan	Ian	When reg is finalized	
9	Follow up on gathering medical visit data from hospital and clinics	Dave Butt/Biz	Oct 15	
10	Read <i>Health and Air Quality 2002 – Phase 1</i> report and comment on approach/findings/recommendations	all	July 22	

11	Letter in support of doing a local study as a follow up to Health and Air Quality recommendation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - include ideas on scope of project and communities to include - send draft to CWG for review before meeting 	Ian/Biz	Oct 15	
12	Press Release – Funding promotes Clean Air (WLAP) summary – put on web page – <i>Airshed Planning Around the province</i>	Laurie	Oct 15	
13	Interim report on cost analysis of home heating options.	Dave Stevens / Eugen/Ian	Oct 15	
14	Consider a recommendation regarding shutdowns during Health advisory if a positive difference would be made.	CWG	Oct 15	
15	Dave to track down article that profiled Vanderhoof's solution	Dave Stevens	Oct 15	
16	a) Follow up on idea to have licensees contact Flight Services as part of Smoke Management Plan b) Follow up on idea to use ceiling height variable for TSA.	Refer to RMBSC of RWG		