

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
AIR QUALITY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY
September 11, 2019
Archdale Building-Ground Floor Hearing Room
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**



MEETING BRIEF

During their September 11, 2019 meeting, the Air Quality Committee (AQC) of the Environmental Management Commission (EMC):

- Heard a concept from the Division of Air Quality’s (DAQ) staff on the impending rulemaking to readopt Group 6 rules pursuant to Session Law 2013-413.
- Received program updates from the Planning and Technical Services Section Chiefs in the DAQ’s Central Office. The program updates were on various topics such as business practices, current topics, emerging issues, and an outlook for the future.
- Discussed current and emerging air quality topics with Director Abraczinskas.

AQC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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| Ms. Shannon M. Arata, AQC Chair | Ms. Marion Deerhake |
| Mr. Charles S. Carter, AQC Vice Chair | Dr. Suzanne Lazorick |
| Ms. Yvonne Bailey | Ms. Maggie Monast |
| Ms. Donna Davis | |

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

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| Dr. Stan Meiburg, EMC Chair | Mr. Mike Abraczinskas, DAQ Director |
| Mr. John McAdams, EMC | Mr. Michael Pjetraj, DAQ Deputy Director |
| Ms. Patricia Harris, EMC | Members of the public |
| Mr. Philip Reynolds, EMC Counsel | DAQ Staff |

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Agenda Item I-1, Call to Order and the State Government Ethics Act, N.C.G.S. §138A-15

Chair Arata called the meeting to order and inquired, per General Statute §138A-15, as to whether any member knows of any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to matters before the EMC’s AQC. No conflicts were identified.

Agenda Item I-2, Review and Approval of the July 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Chair Arata noted that this agenda item was inadvertently omitted before proceeding to Agenda Item II-1. She inquired if everyone had been able to review the minutes from the July meeting and if there were any changes or corrections. No changes or corrections were cited. Chair Arata asked for a motion to approve the July 10, 2019,

meeting minutes. Commissioner Deerhake made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Carter seconded. The July minutes were unanimously approved.

RULEMAKING CONCEPTS

Agenda Item II-1, Session Law 2013-413 (H74) Readoption of Group 6 Air Quality Rules 15A NCAC 02D .0403, .0500, .0900, .1400, .1700 and .2615 (549) (Joelle Burleson, DAQ)

Description:

Ms. Burleson stated that the DAQ is currently working on the sixth group of air quality rules to be considered for readoption pursuant to Session Law 2013-413. The Session Law requires State agencies to review and update their existing rules every 10 years. All 320 air quality rules in 15A NCAC Subchapters 02D and 02Q are to be readopted by the EMC by December 31, 2020. To accomplish this task, the DAQ divided all of its rules into six groups of rule Sections to take through the rulemaking process.

The Group 6 package contains 15A NCAC 02D .0403, *Total Suspended Particulate*; 15A NCAC 02D Section .0500, *Emission Control Standards*; 15A NCAC 02D Section .0900, *Volatile Organic Compounds*; 15A NCAC 02D Section .1400, *Nitrogen Oxides*; 15A NCAC 02D Section .1700, *Municipal Solid Waste Landfills*; and 15A NCAC 02D .2615, *Determination of Leak Tightness and Vapor Leaks*.

Anticipated changes for the Group 6 package include administrative updates such as updating website addresses, updating regulatory references, any needed updates to reflect the current electronic nature of business, and updating rule formatting for consistency with current publication requirements. Other changes may include updating text to reflect North Carolina's current attainment status relevant to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, where referenced. Also, the DAQ is researching whether any existing language needs to be clarified or updated for approvability based on agency experience with review of rules by the Rules Review Commission and its staff.

After conclusion of the public comment period for 15A NCAC 02D .2615, *Determination of Leak Tightness and Vapor Leaks*, the Hearing Officer and DAQ staff recommended that the rule be removed from the Group 5 readoption package. Therefore, as a result of the recommendation, the rule was consolidated with the Group 6 rulemaking concept. This action was due to the Group 6 package containing volatile organic compound rules that the DAQ is planning on revising that will affect certification utilizing 15A NCAC 02D .2615.

A stakeholder meeting was held on June 24, 2019, at the Department of Environmental Quality's Green Square Office Building, Training Room 1210, at 217 West Jones Street in Raleigh. During the meeting, DAQ staff received additional feedback on updates or changes that were needed to improve the Group 6 package. The DAQ plans to bring draft rules to the AQC in November 2019 that reflects input from air quality stakeholders.

Discussion:

Commissioner Deerhake specified that while concepts are not voted upon, it would be ideal to showcase consensus among the Committee members in the official record.

Chair Arata asked for a brief explanation of a "concept" for new Committee members. Ms. Burleson specified that concepts are intended to be a notice of the DAQ's intent to proceed forward with rulemaking. This process is also intended to allow an opportunity for the Committee to provide feedback.

EMC Chairman Meiburg noted that the theory behind earlier groups was to save the harder subject-sets of rules for Group 6. Since this is the final group of complex rules, and it is rather large, he asked for clarification as to whether the DAQ expects any type of controversy to arise; especially since there is a stakeholder process to address potential issues. Also, he asked whether there will be rules that have "substantive changes" compared to

“procedural changes”. Ms. Burleson specified that the stakeholder process has been successful in identifying potential issues before they were of major concern with the regulated community. While the DAQ has undergone a stakeholder process for the Group 6 package, there is never a guarantee that adverse comments will not be received. There are a few rules in 15A NCAC 02D Sections .0500 and .0900 that are anticipated to contain substantive changes based on staff recommendations and stakeholder comments; however, most other rules in Group 6 contain procedural changes. In addition, in order to meet the December 31, 2020, deadline, ongoing litigation at the State or federal level that is settled during the rulemaking process may not be addressed until after the rules are formally readopted.

EMC Chairman Meiburg asked whether there are particular areas in the volatile organic compound (VOC) or oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) rules that the DAQ expects to receive questions or comments. He also noted that it is not expected that the DAQ address all conflicts before the rules move forward to the Committee. Ms. Burleson specified that there was recent activity at the federal level in regards to an alternative NO_x monitoring rule that the DAQ is considering. Also, for the total suspended particulates standard, the DAQ is assessing whether to incorporate additional items as part of this readoption package.

Commissioner Deerhake discussed the postponement of 15A NCAC 02D .2615 from the Group 5 readoption package. The drafted rule language had allowed the option to use either the United States Department of Transportation’s (USDOT) test method or the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) test method. She specified that it would be ideal for the DAQ to determine whether there has been a comparison of the test methods in terms of their performance, and if so, provide that information to the Commission.

Motion:

No motion required.

ACTION ITEMS

None.

SEPTEMBER EMC AGENDA ITEMS

***Agenda Item IV-1, Request Approval of Hearing Officer Report on Session Law 2013-413 (H74) Redoption of Group 5 Rules 15A NCAC 02D .0600-.0615, .2100-.2104, .2300-2311, .2600-.2621 and Final Approval of Regulatory Impact Analysis (547) (Joelle Burleson, DAQ)**

Due to time constraints, Chair Arata stated that the Committee may choose to wait to hear the agenda items containing an asterisk (*) during the full Commission. The Committee affirmed to hear the asterisked items during the full Commission meeting on September 12, 2019.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Agenda Item V-1, Division of Air Quality Program Updates (Randy Strait and Steve Hall, DAQ)

Randy Strait, Planning Section Chief

Description:

Mr. Strait stated that the Planning Section consists of three branches that consist of 21 staff members: 1) the Rule Development Branch; 2) the Allied Programs Branch; and 3) the Attainment Planning Branch. Patrick Knowlson currently oversees the Rule Development Branch, which is responsible for adopting, amending, and repealing air quality rules that comply with State and federal requirements. The rulemaking process typically takes between

one to two years for completion. Duties of the Branch include items such as interpreting federal regulations and State rules, developing rules, submitting rules to the EPA for State Implementation Plan (SIP) approval, and reviewing Local Program rules before they are submitted for EPA's review and approval. Current projects within the Branch include the Session Law 2013-413 re-adoption, log fumigation rulemaking including the methyl bromide acceptable ambient level (AAL), and EPA's Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) rule. Specifically, for the ACE rule, State Plans are due to EPA by July 2022 and must incorporate federal CO₂ emissions guidelines for existing coal-fired electricity generating units (>25 MWh nameplate capacity; >250 MMBtu/hr heat input; and burn coal at least 10% of the time over the last 3 years).

Robin Barrows currently oversees the Allied Programs Branch, which is responsible for collecting stationary source emissions inventory data, submitting the inventory data to EPA, and providing education and outreach to the public. Specifically, for education and outreach, the Allied Programs Branch implements the North Carolina Air Awareness Program. This program focuses on voluntary actions to solve current and emerging air pollution problems. This approach includes working with the community, partnering with various entities, and providing education projects for the public regarding air quality. The Program also implements the "It's Our Air Project" which develops and implements high school lesson plans, activities, videos, and workshops to assist teachers in their knowledge of various air quality topics. The teachers may obtain professional development credits for attending the workshops; however, the main focus is to train teachers so they may effectively communicate air quality management to students. Other priorities in the Air Awareness program are developing driver education lesson plans and activities, partnering with the Mecklenburg County Local Program to build an interactive "Air Quality Learning Station", and partnering with the DAQ Ambient Monitoring Section to promote proper use of personal sensor technologies.

Tammy Manning currently oversees the Attainment Planning Branch, which is responsible for developing and implementing State Implementation Plans (SIPs) to comply with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) under Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 110. The Branch also develops State Plans for emissions guidelines for existing stationary sources pursuant to CAA Section 111(d). Other duties of the branch include daily air quality forecasting for fine particulate matter (year round), ground-level ozone (March 1 – October 31), conducting air quality modeling for various planning efforts, and coordinating planning efforts with federal, state, and local governments and other stakeholders, as required. One item to highlight is that Bradley McLamb, DAQ meteorologist, created an ozone design value predictor tool that received an Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies (AAPCA) best practice award in August 2019. This tool was developed in response to a DAQ management request for a quick method to evaluate how an exceedance at an air quality monitor would affect an ozone design value. It was also developed to showcase how close a design value is to violating the NAAQS. The tool works nationwide and updates daily to estimate what the current design value would be at each monitor for the current ozone season.

After the EPA develops or revises a NAAQS, they must determine whether areas are meeting (attainment/unclassifiable) or not meeting (nonattainment) the standard. The EPA utilizes monitoring data to determine an area's design value, which is the concentration measurements averaged over a specific time interval for determining compliance with the NAAQS. This process entails states recommending boundaries and designations based on a technical analysis one year after the new NAAQS is implemented. Afterwards, if the EPA disagrees with the designations, they will provide a letter to the states 120 days prior to final designations with their intended modifications (also known as a 120-day letter). The EPA will make its final designations two years after the new NAAQS is implemented.

In general, a SIP is a state's plan to implement and enforce federal air quality management programs to comply with the CAA. Certain program elements are subject to EPA's approval, and once approved, the elements become "federally enforceable". SIPs are also an overall air quality plan for attaining or maintaining the NAAQS for a designated nonattainment area. North Carolina has its own Subpart in 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 52 regarding its attainment status for the NAAQS. SIPs generally include a foundation control program (State

rules, federal rules, and plans to limit emissions), an emissions inventory and forecast, ambient air quality monitoring data (design values), and if necessary, photochemical-grid modeling. The public has an opportunity to review and comment on SIP elements during the state and federal comment periods. One item to note is that North Carolina's Local Programs develop Local Implementation Plans (LIPs) which the DAQ reviews before submitting to EPA on the Local Program's behalf. Also, no backsliding is allowed under the CAA for any SIP provision.

Mr. Strait provided a brief summary of the infrastructure SIP (iSIP) and attainment/maintenance SIP. For iSIPs, the State must develop a plan to address 14 elements in CAA Section 110 to show that basic air quality management programs are in place after the EPA revises a NAAQS. This plan is due three years after the NAAQS revision and also addresses interstate transport of air pollution. For the attainment/maintenance SIP, the State prepares maintenance plans for two successive 10-year periods for areas that are designated nonattainment for a NAAQS. The attainment/maintenance SIP is due three years after a nonattainment designation and must be updated 8-years into the first 10-year period. However, if an area has no violations of a NAAQS for the pollutant of interest over the 20-year life of this SIP, the area will be classified as attainment. Although an attainment designation is granted, the State must keep any programs in place that had supported them into that designation.

If the State wishes to remove a SIP element, a CAA Section 110(l) noninterference demonstration must be conducted. This technical analysis showcases how a program change will affect emissions (i.e. increase, decrease, or no impact). The analysis must also demonstrate that the program change will not interfere with ongoing attainment/maintenance of any of the NAAQS. Once completed, the analysis and SIP revision will go through a public comment period and ultimately submitted for the EPA's review and approval.

Mr. Strait discussed the Regional Haze SIP (10-year cycles through 2064), the 2010 1-hour SO₂ NAAQS, and the National Emissions Inventory (NEI). For the Regional Haze SIP, the purpose is to improve visibility in national parks/wilderness areas to background levels by 2064. The Round 1 SIP was due to the EPA for the 2008-2018 planning period in 2007, while the Round 2 SIP for the 2018-2028 planning period will be due by July 21, 2021. The DAQ is collaborating with various state/local agencies in 10 Southeastern states to complete technical work and also has hired a contractor to conduct the emissions inventory and air quality modeling. For the 2010 1-hour SO₂ NAAQS, the State was designated as attainment/unclassifiable Statewide (except for three townships). In early 2020, the State will provide its recommendations for designating the remaining sites based on three years of monitoring data. The EPA will complete its designations by December 31, 2020. For the NEI, the DAQ recently completed work on the 2017 version. The EPA requires states to submit an inventory every three years for all anthropogenic sources of emissions (mobile, stationary, and area sources).

Other projects that the Attainment Planning Branch is working on include the limited maintenance plan for the 1997 8-hour ozone NAAQS, transportation and general conformity analyses for ozone maintenance areas, revisions to the motor vehicle emissions inspection SIP, and reviewing/responding to the EPA's rules and guidance. Mr. Strait provided a brief summary of the legal timeline for the 1997 8-hour ozone NAAQS and noted that the model year coverage revisions for the 22 counties subject to North Carolina's inspection and maintenance (I&M) program were approved on September 11, 2019 (with a federal effective date of October 11, 2019).

Steve Hall, Technical Services Section Chief

Description:

Mr. Hall stated that the Technical Services Section is the compliance and enforcement headquarters of the DAQ. There are primarily two Branches in the Section: 1) the Stationary Source Compliance Branch, supervised by Gary Saunders; and 2) the Mobile Source Compliance Branch, supervised by Brian Phillips. The Section recently added a Technical Skills Training Coordinator to ensure that all of the DAQ's staff are up-to-date on training and prepared for potential mass retirements in the future.

The Technical Services Section has experts and specialists in reviewing stationary source items such as emissions testing, continuous emissions monitoring certification, and implementing the Section 112r Risk Management Program. These staff continuously review, evaluate, and determine whether facilities are complying with federal and State programs. For mobile sources, the Section also has experts focused on administering the federal Volkswagen Settlement, implementing other grant programs, and working with other motor vehicle topics. Mr. Hall provided a brief overview of the DAQ's website to ensure that the Commissioners were able to find more information about the duties and priorities of the Stationary and Mobile Source Compliance Branches.

Whenever there is a change to the State's I&M program, the Technical Services Section works with the Planning Section to assist in updating the SIP, and also with the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to ensure that they are prepared to update their emissions testing interfaces. For the Volkswagen Settlement, the Department is in Phase 1 out of 3 for awarding a total of \$92 million worth of funds to eligible projects that reduce NOx emissions throughout North Carolina. The Section has developed a "Mitigation Plan" to describe and document how the emissions reductions will be achieved. Phase 1 is broken out into funds going to school buses, transit buses, on-road and off-road diesel vehicle replacements, and 15 percent of the initial Phase's funding going to zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) infrastructure. The Section is currently accepting applications for two parts of the program's request for proposals (RFP) through the end of September; specifically, for the diesel portion (replacing diesel engines with a cleaner technology) and the DC fast charging infrastructure portion of the ZEV segment. The Section is waiting on the Level 2 charging infrastructure until those specific RFPs are released in the coming months. Applications that are awarded funds will begin to be announced this fall and winter. Contracts with the awardees will begin soon after the awards are announced, with Phase 2 planning and public input subsequently following.

The DAQ believes that more frequent site visits promote higher compliance rates. Therefore, as a result, the DAQ emphasizes two goals: 1) inspect higher emitting facilities at least once per year; and 2) inspect lower emitting facilities every other year (which is above the EPA's requirements for this permit category). In order to support this task, there is a robust air quality data management system for stationary sources that is monitored by Technical Services. Based on information from the database, there were 283 Title V facilities, 634 synthetic minor facilities, 979 small facilities, 114 registered facilities, and 518 permit exempt facilities. The minimum number of compliance inspections each year is approximately 1,720.

Due to the expertise of the Technical Services Section, the group is called to support complex special projects. For example, in early 2017, the Department started investigating GenX found in surface water. The Department had ultimately determined the Chemours – Fayetteville Works facility to be the source of the contamination. Afterwards, the DAQ became heavily involved in mid-2017 when atmospheric deposition was suspected to contribute to GenX levels found in offsite groundwater. At the time, there was data available for water quality; however, very little air quality data existed. Since there were no approved GenX air emissions measurement methodologies available, the Stationary Source Compliance Branch had to review and approve testing methodologies developed by Chemours to obtain air emissions data. A series of air emissions testing programs began in January 2018. The Fayetteville Regional Office's Stationary Source Compliance Branch staff have been on site at the facility for each testing day. So far, there are 23 weeks (involving multiple days) of testing from January 2018 to August 2019.

Discussion:

Chair Arata asked why the due date for the Round 2 Regional Haze SIP is after the 2018-2028 planning period begins. Mr. Strait specified that the due date was initially planned before the Round 2 planning period begins; however, the EPA revised the Regional Haze rule in 2017 and gave three extra years since states were in the process of implementing programs for the revised NAAQS. This was an opportunity to roll the other programs into their planning process. For the 2028-2038 planning period, the SIPs should be due one year prior.

Commissioner Monast asked how a nonattainment area is defined and what factors determine the size. Mr. Strait specified that the EPA generally releases guidance that states should follow to establish nonattainment area boundaries. For example, since ozone is pervasive and easily transportable, the boundaries are typically larger than those would be for a source-specific SO₂ nonattainment area. For ozone, the DAQ assesses urban areas compared to rural areas by capturing the boundary encompassing major sources of emissions by using ambient monitors, population data, and geography. For SO₂, the areas are defined at the township level since it is a specific source causing violations.

Commissioner Monast asked whether interstate transport from neighboring states is significantly contributing to the air quality in North Carolina. Mr. Strait specified that the EPA conducts modeling exercises to determine whether states are significantly causing or contributing to a monitor violation in a neighboring state. Also, the DAQ conducts its own modeling exercises to compare against EPA's modeling runs. As of the September 11, 2019, meeting, no other states are significantly affecting North Carolina's air quality.

Commissioner Deerhake encouraged the DAQ's staff to work with the EPA and neighboring down-wind states to avoid potential issues with respect to interstate transport. Also, she stated an issue that has been brought before the Commission in the past that has not been refined in a long period of time is in regard to federal lands. The Regional Haze SIP and Southeastern collaboration had brought this issue to mind. Specifically, the Federal Land Managers have a guidance document titled the "*Federal Land Managers' Air Quality Related Values Work Group*" (FLAG) document. In the past, there was an issue when a Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit application dealing with SO₂ emissions in proximity to federal lands was presented before the Commission several years ago. One of the biggest issues of debate was not the term "background levels", but rather the term "natural conditions". Commissioner Deerhake wanted to ensure that the DAQ was aware of the FLAG guidance document and to keep track of any respective updates from the Department of Interior. Also, she wanted to ensure that the DAQ is aware of the differences between "background levels" and "natural conditions" since there is the potential for another PSD issue in the future that is adjacent to federal lands. Mr. Strait added that federal Class 1 areas have ambient monitors that are helpful in formulating a baseline. One of the changes made in the new Regional Haze Rule is to focus on anthropogenic sources that can be controlled in order to assist in tracking progress.

Motion:

No motion required.

Agenda Item V-2, Director's Remarks (Mike Abraczinskas, DAQ)

Description:

Director Abraczinskas recognized staff and the respective Section Chiefs for providing program updates to the Committee. Also, the Director recognized Brian Phillips, Mobile Source Compliance Branch Supervisor, for his accomplishments in being selected as "Volunteer of the Year" by the Wake County Public System for their "School to Career" program. Brian has hosted high school science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) students over the past two years. The students conducted an electric vehicle survey this past summer that had assisted the DAQ's mission and initiatives. Brian will be honored by the Wake County Public School system in late September 2019.

Discussion:

EMC Chair Meiburg asked whether the DAQ was expecting to recommend that the three remaining townships mentioned in Mr. Strait's presentation be designated as "attainment" for the 2010 1-hour SO₂ NAAQS Round 2 SIP. He noted that there have been changes to the SO₂ emissions inventory over the past few years. Director Abraczinskas specified that the DAQ is continuing to collect the required three years of monitoring data. Each of the monitors are located near stationary sources that are known to be large emitters of SO₂. In implementing the EPA's SO₂ standard, the DAQ had a choice of monitoring or modeling to demonstrate compliance. The DAQ

ultimately decided to conduct a mix of both exercises. At one of the facilities, the emissions profile has significantly changed (or lowered) over the three-year period due to changes in the fuel mix from coal to natural gas. The DAQ believes that the State is on a good trajectory for an “attainment” designation recommendation in 2020 based on the current data. To be clear, the DAQ makes recommendations and the EPA ultimately decides whether states are attaining the standards. EMC Chair Meiburg noted that in the past, air quality modeling would typically produce more stringent results. However, due to the noted fuel mix changes in this scenario, air quality modeling may produce a more robust justification for “attainment” than the monitoring data.

EMC Chair Meiburg asked for the 2019 ozone season status in North Carolina. Director Abraczinskas specified that the State is currently attaining the 2015 ozone NAAQS; however, the Charlotte area is just below the standard. There were a few exceedances in the Charlotte area but no violations had occurred.

EMC Chair Meiburg asked the State’s position, particularly the Attorney General’s Office, with respect to the Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) Rule. Director Abraczinskas specified that the Attorney General’s Office is a party to the case. EMC Chair Meiburg ceased further discussion on this topic.

EMC Chair Meiburg asked for the status of the proposed changes to the tailpipe standard. Director Abraczinskas specified that there has not been a final federal action on this topic. Previously, the Committee was briefed about a proposal from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the EPA that would potentially jeopardize what has been a longstanding ability for California’s own vehicle emissions standards and also by freezing fuel economy standards in the 2025 timeframe. Many other states have opted into the program. Essentially, there were vehicles that were meeting federal standards, while others were manufactured to meet California’s standards. More recently, the standards have been close in regard to conventional pollutants; however, they diverge in the future in regard to greenhouse gases. There have been some interesting developments where some engine and vehicle manufacturers have decided to conform to the California standards, regardless of the proposed federal standards.

Commissioner Monast prefaced her question by stating that there has been some back and forth on federal methane regulations and asked how this impacts the State of North Carolina. Director Abraczinskas that while the DAQ follows oil and gas regulations, the DAQ does not pay particularly close attention to them since there is no oil and gas in North Carolina. On the topic of landfills, the DAQ is asking questions to better understand the recent federal actions by the EPA. The EPA has had to respond to a court order for that source sector, while also meeting a deadline to conduct a residual risk assessment. In the DAQ’s view, there’s a need for the EPA to reconcile a number of confusing, overlapping, and misaligned components of the New Source Performance Standards before the DAQ regulates the community and writes permits.

Commissioner Monast stated that there is literature supporting that methane infrastructure leaks at a higher rate than expected. She asked whether this is an issue that the DAQ is paying attention to. Director Abraczinskas specified that the Raleigh AAPCA meeting had experts discussing the topic and concluded that there is better monitoring data for leaks in transmission lines. There are also technologies and methods that may trigger official regulatory monitoring.

Chair Arata asked for a brief summary of the methyl bromide rule that will be presented at the November EMC meeting. Director Abraczinskas specified that the comment period has ended and the DAQ is in the process of preparing responses to over 1,500 comments. Many of the reviewed comments were favorable of the rulemaking; however, there were a few adverse comments. Commissioner Deerhake noted that a total of two public hearings were held: 1) Raleigh; and 2) Wilmington. Attendance was good at both hearings.

CLOSING REMARKS AND MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Chair Arata asked for additional questions or comments, and upon hearing none, noted that the next meeting of the AQC would be November 13, 2019. Chair Arata adjourned the meeting.