Kittitas County Public Health Department Air Quality Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday May 9, 2014

In attendance Jake Armstrong, Amy Fuller, Alisa Spieckerman, Sue Billings, Andrew Lyons, Debby DeSoer, Anne Johansen, Holly Myers, Jay Carmony, Rhanil Dhammapala, and Jeff Johnston

Amy presented the survey draft and discussed/explained each question and took comments.
Committee members suggested edits to the survey throughout the presentation.
There was discussion about the flow of questions and moving some questions around.
Discussion on pellet and wood stove distinction.
Regroup questions to indoor and outdoor burning after question #10.
Talk on the distinction between sole source, primary, secondary, and supplemental.
Survey monkey, link on utility bill mailings, and boxes in various sites across the county will be the modes of distribution.
Maybe add a neighbor question.
Add information about presto logs, dura logs, pellet, building scraps, pallets, and organic debris.
Andrew made edits on the Hope source project section.
Discussion about the question regarding where people hear about burn bans and add a link about where they can go to educate themselves about burn bans/air quality.
Add “optional” for the demographic section.
Discussion about the committee coming up with ideas for good incentives for taking the survey.

Ranil, local forecaster presented about how he calls a burn ban.
Explained when they call a stage II ban.
People who use wood as their primary source of heat can still use during a ban.
They only call county wide bans which may not represent all zips in the county since the monitor is just in Ellensburg.
The prediction for the 3rd day and beyond is less certain. 3 days is the most reliable call.

Jay from DOE, presented information about his position on the smoke management team.
Outreach-update daily burn decision hotline and list servs, get info.to fire chiefs, DNR, and health departments (press releases) for permission to burn or not.
Assistance-5 counties covered, assistance over the phone, assist with Hopsource to provide bounty exchanges for wood stoves.
Enforcement-travel around various counties to inspect if people are complying with the law, Jay writes notices and gives out educational packets to get the message out about burn bans and if he notices they are in noncompliance.
Jay stated that people are willing to comply and Education is key!
Discussion that citizen patrol would be a good resource to identify access of non-compliance in the county and to report illegal activity. DOE would gladly be willing to train code enforcement and patrol, citizens to identify violators and educate them.

Holly will send out potential upcoming education sessions for the committee to vote on.

**Next meeting is June 13th, 10:00 am at PH conference room.**