

**BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to s. 285.13(1), Stats., the Department of Natural Resources will hold a public informational meeting to review its ambient air quality monitoring network throughout Wisconsin.

Monitoring Network

In 1981 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) approved a portion of the Wisconsin State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the Clean Air Act monitoring plan dealing with air quality surveillance, which is required by Parts 51 and 58 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations. That monitoring plan presented a detailed scheme for ambient air quality monitoring, including a detailed proposal for a comprehensive network of ambient monitors throughout Wisconsin. In addition, the Department proposed to conduct an annual review of the monitoring network and to notify the public of significant changes in the network by conducting a public informational meeting.

This meeting will review the changes that occurred in 2009 and will present an outline of changes proposed for 2010. An explanation will be provided for each deviation from the previous year's plan as well as the proposed changes. Public comments on the changes will also be received at the informational meeting.

NCore Air Monitoring Station

USEPA requires each state air monitoring agency to identify and/or establish one of its ambient air monitoring sites for inclusion in the NCore network of air monitoring stations. NCore is a multi pollutant network that integrates several advanced measurement systems for particles, pollutant gases and meteorology. EPA is coordinating with its state, local and Tribal partners, who will operate the NCore sites, on a list of possible site locations. Wisconsin DNR will propose the Mayville air monitoring station to be included in the USEPA NCore site network. Specific information concerning the Mayville candidate NCore site will be discussed at this public informational meeting. Proposed NCore site plans must be submitted to USEPA by July 1, 2009.

Exceptional and Uncontrollable Events

In 1987, 1997, and 2006 the USEPA promulgated ambient air quality standards for PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} (see particulate matter definitions below)¹ under 40 CFR 50.6 and 40 CFR 50.7 respectively. Appendix K to 40 CFR part 50, "Interpretation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for PM₁₀", in section 2.4, "Adjustments for Exceptional Events and Trends", allows state agencies conducting monitoring the opportunity to remove monitoring data from consideration for SIP purposes, if the agency can demonstrate that the data resulted from an "exceptional event", provided that the state presents the evidence for its reasons to delete or flag the data at the public hearing. In addition, Appendix N to 40 CFR part 50, "Interpretation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for PM_{2.5}", in section 1.0(b), indicates that in some cases, it may be appropriate to exclude data resulting from uncontrollable or natural events such as structural fires or high winds.

Through April 2009 there have been no exceptional or uncontrollable particulate matter events in Wisconsin.

¹ Particle pollution (also known as "particulate matter") in the air includes a mixture of solids and liquid droplets. Some particles are emitted directly; others are formed in the atmosphere when other pollutants react. Particles come in a wide range of sizes. Those less than 10 micrometers in diameter (PM₁₀) are so small that they can get into the lungs (inhalable particulate matter), potentially causing serious health problems. Ten micrometers is smaller than the width of a single human hair.

- **Fine particles.** Particles less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM_{2.5}) are called "fine" particles. These particles are so small they can be detected only with an electron microscope. Sources of fine particles include all types of combustion, including motor vehicles, power plants, residential wood burning, forest fires, agricultural burning, and some industrial processes.
- **Coarse dust particles.** Particles between 2.5 and 10 micrometers in diameter (PM_{10-2.5}) are referred to as "coarse." Sources of coarse particles include crushing or grinding operations, and dust stirred up by vehicles traveling on roads.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that pursuant to s. 285.13(1), Stats., the Department of Natural Resources will hold a public informational meeting to review the ambient air quality monitoring network. The meeting will be held:

Tuesday, June 16, 2009
at 9:30 a.m.
Room 713, GEF II
101 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53703

Written comments on the monitoring network may be submitted directly to Mr. Bart Sponseller, c/o Air Monitoring Section, Bureau of Air Management, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707, no later than June 23, 2009. Written comments will have the same weight and effect as oral comments presented at the meeting.

A copy of the proposed revision to the Monitoring Plan is available for public inspection at the Bureau of Air Management, 7th Floor, 101 S. Webster Street, Madison, Wisconsin, on the following web address: <http://dnr.wi.gov/air/aq/monitor/netreview.htm> or by mail (at no charge) from Mr. Bart Sponseller at the address noted above.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin _____

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Air Management

By /s/
John H. Melby Jr., Director
Bureau of Air Management