

AQM Vision and Principles

AQM Subcommittee Meeting

June 16-17, 2005

Ann Arbor

Where we are now and how we got here.....

- Small group formed to draft Vision and Principles to serve as touchstones for development of additional recommendations
- Participants included Brock Nicholson, Jeff Underhill, Leah Weiss, Jeanette Clute, Jerry Roussel, Mark MacLeod, Janice Nolen, John Seitz, Don Clay, Chuck Mueller, Lisa Gomez, Margie Perkins, Michael Bradley, Pam Giblin, Janet McCabe, John Bachmann

Where we are now and how we got here.....

- Presented draft Vision and Principles to AQM Workgroup in March 2005
- Workgroup approved Vision statement in March 2005; discussed but did not finalize Principles

Vision

- Air in all areas of the country is of the highest quality, supporting a high quality of life that protects and enhances public health, ecosystems and other public welfare values, and economic well-being for all.
- Governments, businesses, and the public all have a common goal to improve and protect air quality because they understand the relationship between economic well-being, public health and ecosystem health, and other public welfare values. They work together in an atmosphere of trust towards the common goal.
- The nation's air quality management system is clear, open, transparent, accountable, effective, efficient, timely, equitable, cost-effective, and is consistent with science.

Further discussion of Principles resulted in....

- Pulling out the essence of the draft principles
- Introductory phrases to capture that essence
- Consensus of small group that draft principles identify the important issues to guide Subcommittee as it develops additional recommendations to improve AQM process

The AQM System should....

- Be performance-based
- Rely on shared responsibility and partnerships
- Use integrated, multipollutant, multimedia approaches
- Use regional, national or international reduction strategies where appropriate
- Use proven pollution reduction approaches
- Promote new and innovative pollution reduction approaches
- Be as simple as possible, but flexible to adapt to changing or unanticipated needs (e.g. new pollutants, new science, new techniques, etc)
- Provide as much certainty as possible to parties over time
- Consider other factors such as energy, land use and transportation
- Maintain and improve research efforts
- Make information and data accessible to all
- Be economically efficient
- Incorporate an international perspective

Principle 1:

Protect Public Health and Welfare

through a Performance-based approach

- The Air Quality Management system should be designed to protect public health and welfare, and should be performance-based, with periodic, meaningful reviews to determine whether appropriate air pollutants are being regulated to safe levels and whether societal expenditures made are resulting in predicted health and environmental protection.

Principle #2: **Shared Responsibility and Partnership**

- The Air Quality Management system should establish shared responsibility among tribal, local, state, and federal governments for achieving air quality goals, but also maintain and assure tribal, local and state governments' authority to protect public health and the environment.

Principle #3: **Multipollutant and Multimedia Approaches**

- The Air Quality Management system should integrate multipollutant and multimedia considerations into all aspects of air quality management, wherever possible.

Principle #4:

Regional, National, and International Measures

- In addition to employing local measures where appropriate, the Air Quality Management system should expand application of and develop regional and national measures, and where appropriate, international agreements, considering air quality needs and cost-effectiveness for every source sector (stationary, area and mobile) to address air pollution in an internationally, nationally or regionally consistent manner and consistent with the science of air pollution, including chemistry and movement.

Principle #5: Traditional and Innovative Approaches

- **The Air Quality Management system should acknowledge the role of, and include where appropriate, proven emissions reduction approaches as well as exploring and advancing reductions from all sources of air pollution, including non-traditional sources, and newer approaches such as innovative, episodic and voluntary measures. Through improved emissions measurement and characterization, the system should ensure that all emissions reductions yield appropriate levels of public health and environmental protection while being economically efficient.**

Principle #6: **Effectiveness, Simplicity, Flexibility and Openness**

- The Air Quality Management system should strive to be simple, open, effective, efficient and flexible and should be capable of adapting to new information, technical advances, innovations, and improvements in our understanding of the science of air pollution, its reduction, and its effects on health, welfare and ecosystems.

Principle #7: **Certainty and Predictability**

- The Air Quality Management system should recognize that predictability and as much certainty as possible for all stakeholders will make progress more cost-effective and simpler to implement.

**Principle #8:
Coordination with other Issues that
Affect Air Quality**

- The Air Quality Management system should coordinate air quality planning and management to the greatest extent feasible with planning and management in related areas, such as energy use, land use and transportation.

Principle #9:

A Strong, Continuing Research Program

- The Air Quality Management system should maintain and improve a vibrant research program and technical infrastructure, with a special emphasis on providing improved scientific and technical support for a program capable of protecting human health and welfare from the increasing number of potentially toxic pollutants in the atmosphere in an effective and timely manner while not unnecessarily impeding economic activity and technological progress.

Principle #10:

Information Must Be Accessible to All

- The Air Quality Management System should provide on an ongoing basis all parties with access to air quality related information (ambient data, emissions inventories, air pollutant impacts, cost and benefit information, air quality analyses, technology assessments) in an information friendly manner as a means to enhance the understanding of air quality issues among all stakeholder groups, to encourage independent assessments and to stimulate effective dialogue within the air quality community.

Principle #11: **Efficiency**

- The Air Quality Management system should strive to achieve the public health and environmental goals at the lowest possible cost and recognize the need for American businesses to be competitive.

Next Steps...

- Vision intended to reflect a common goal
- Principles intended to be a touchstone for Phase 2 discussions, not an end in themselves
- Small group recommends that the Subcommittee accept these concepts and move the process on to the next step.