

OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

PUBLIC HEARING

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

----- :
: :
In re: :
: :
Division of Air Pollution Control: :
Cleveland, Akron, Lorain PM 2.5 :
Redesignation Public Hearing :
: :
----- :

Transcript of proceedings before the Ohio
Environmental Protection Agency, taken at
Twinsburg Public Library, 10050 Ravenna Road,
Twinsburg, Ohio 44087, on Friday,
September 23, 2011, commencing at 2:30 p.m.

APPEARANCES:
Kristopher Weiss, Public Involvement Coordinator
Sarah VanderWielen, Environmental Specialist II

PROCEEDINGS

1
2 MR. WEISS: Well, good
3 afternoon. Thanks for coming out. I'm
4 Kristopher Weiss. I'm a public involvement
5 coordinator in the Ohio EPA's Public Interest
6 Center and I'll moderate today's public
7 hearing.

8 Thanks for taking the time to attend.
9 The purpose of this hearing is to obtain
10 comments from any interested person regarding
11 Ohio EPA's request that U.S. EPA revise the
12 current air-quality designation for the
13 Cleveland, Akron, Lorain, nonattainment area,
14 which includes, Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Lake,
15 Lorain, Medina, Portage and Summit counties
16 with respect to the 1997 annual PM 2.5
17 national ambient air quality standard, or
18 NAAQS.

19 Air quality monitoring data collected
20 between 2008 and 2010 in this region
21 demonstrate attainment of the NAAQS and there
22 is evidence that the improved air quality is
23 due to permanent, enforceable emission
24 reductions.

25 All interested persons are entitled to

1 attend or be represented, and to present oral
2 and/or written comments concerning the
3 proposed agenda. All written and oral
4 comments received as part of the official
5 record will be considered by the Director of
6 Ohio EPA.

7 To be included in the official record
8 written comments must be received by Ohio EPA
9 by the close of business today, September 23,
10 2011. These comments can be filed with me
11 today or e-mailed to
12 carolina.prado@epa.state.oh.us. The spelling
13 is C-a-r-o-l-i-n-a, P-r-a-d-o at
14 epa.state.oh.us.

15 All written comments submitted for the
16 record receive the same consideration as oral
17 testimony given today. Written statements
18 submitted after today may be considered as
19 time and circumstances permit but will not be
20 part of the official record for this hearing.

21 If you wish to present oral testimony
22 and have not already signed the registration
23 sheet, please do so now. The sheet is
24 available at the registration table. People
25 will be called in the order in which they have

1 registered.

2 There is no cross-examination of
3 speakers or representatives of Ohio EPA in
4 public hearings of this type. Ohio EPA
5 hearings such as this afford citizens the
6 opportunity to provide comments on the
7 official record. Therefore, we will not be
8 able to answer questions during the hearing.
9 However, members of the panel may ask
10 clarifying questions of the person testifying
11 to ensure the record is as complete and
12 accurate as possible.

13 I will now read the names of those who
14 have registered to testify at this hearing and
15 will give each person an opportunity to
16 testify. And the first person is Amy
17 Wainright. Thank you.

18 And can you just say your name and
19 spell it?

20 MS. WAINRIGHT: My name is Amy
21 Wainright. A-m-y, W-a-i-n-r-i-g-h-t. I'm an
22 environmental planner at NOACA and I'm also
23 legal counsel there. But it's in my role as
24 environmental planner that I worked on the PM
25 2.5 SIP issues with the help of Ed Fasco and

1 many others who served on NOACA's air quality
2 task force.

3 In 2006 we took an entire year working
4 with Ohio EPA through a Memorandum of
5 Understanding to tackle the fine particulate
6 issues for Northeast Ohio, and we looked at
7 all of the different things that caused fine
8 particles and we came up with a multitude of
9 different solutions that we thought could be
10 implementing in order to try to solve the
11 problem. And eventually the task force
12 narrowed it down to some pieces that were they
13 thought reasonable and possible and sent all
14 of them to the Ohio EPA in the form of a NOACA
15 governing board resolution.

16 And we're just really delighted and
17 grateful to our partners at Ohio EPA that so
18 many things have been successful in taking
19 care of this problem. We're glad that the
20 State of Ohio has done the work that it has
21 done with coal fired power plants and we're
22 very glad that U.S. EPA took the sulfur out of
23 diesel fuel in 2007 and decided that diesel
24 tractor trailer rigs would now have air
25 pollution controls on all of their new

1 engines. And the reason that we were glad is
2 because a lot of these things are issues that
3 we at the local level cannot control. We
4 don't have any way to help to solve our NAAQS
5 problems without partners like Ohio EPA and
6 U.S. EPA. And so I felt that everybody pulled
7 together in order to help the region to attain
8 the NAAQS. And NOACA continues to do
9 voluntary measures that address fine
10 particles. We are doing an anti-idling
11 campaign. We have given away more than 500
12 aluminum anti-idling signs that are being put
13 up all throughout the counties and they are
14 put up in both public sector locations and
15 private sector locations, hoping that people
16 will no longer waste gasoline and diesel fuel
17 by idling their engines when they're not going
18 anywhere. And we've helped a number of local
19 municipalities adopt ordinances to make it
20 illegal to idle engines when nobody is doing
21 anything.

22 At my agency we also do transportation
23 planning. So we try every year to work on
24 traffic congestion and traffic signal
25 synchronization so that there isn't wasted

1 fuel and PM 2.5 ending up in the air just due
2 to traffic jams. So I feel that it has worked
3 out very well in this instance.

4 I know that the data also shows we'll
5 end up with good numbers from the daily
6 standard for PM 2.5 and we're all glad to see
7 it.

8 We certainly have nothing but good
9 things to say on the record. The president of
10 NOACA this year is Medina County Commissioner
11 Steve Hambley and he requested that I come
12 here today and mention on the record how proud
13 we are of our own efforts, the efforts of the
14 public, the efforts of the utilities, the
15 citizenry, the trucking fleet, the businesses
16 in order to help us meet this goal.

17 I got to tell you in 2006 we weren't
18 really sure that we were going to make the
19 goal, and we did and it's wonderful.

20 I'd be happy to answer any questions
21 but I want to thank you so much for -- you
22 know, it's been a long road but thank you for
23 all the work that was done.

24 MR. WEISS: Thanks very much. Is
25 there anybody else who would like to testify

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

at this time?

(No response.)

MR. WEISS: Okay. We'll go ahead and go off the record and see if anybody else comes to testify.

(Off the record.)

MR. WEISS: Okay. Seeing that there are no further requests for testimony I'll remind you once again that written comments can be submitted through the close of business today. Thanks for coming out. It's now 3:00 and the hearing is adjourned.

(Hearing adjourned at 3:00 p.m.)

- - -

1 State of Ohio,)
2 County of Cuyahoga.) SS:

C E R T I F I C A T E

This certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the proceedings had before the State of Ohio, Environmental Protection Agency, in Twinsburg, Ohio, on Friday, September 23, 2011 commencing at 2:30 p.m.

In Re:

Division of Air Pollution Control
Cleveland, Akron, Lorain PM 2.5
Redesignation Public Hearing.

Karen C. Toth

COURT REPORTER

FINCUN-MANCINI COURT REPORTERS
1801 East Ninth Street
Suite 1720
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
(216) 696-2272
(216) 696-2275 FAX