



Biannual Briefing Note

Date: 16 November 2013

Issued by: Dan Veller, Public Member

Agency: Heating Sector

Description

Each member of PGAIR is requested to provide a biannual update on implementation activities related to the Phase III Plan. Please identify your agency's relevant activities (existing and planned) in the template provided. The information from these reports will be posted on the PGAIR website. Briefing note due dates:

- November 12, 2013
- May 13, 2014

2016 PM 2.5 Goal

- A 40% reduction from all significant sources;
- A daily average not to exceed 25 micrograms per cubic meter of air; and
- An annual Average of 5 micrograms per cubic meter of air.

Member Update

The private sector has seen a drop in wood related sales. My only thoughts are the price of gas is still very low and that makes it quite attractive for many home owners. Manufacturers continue to improve on efficiencies. We now have wood stoves that are working at a fraction of the EPA requirement. That is .4 grams per hour and it is an attractive stove, that operates very well.

My sector has seen more improvements in efficiency again this year. I am thinking that with some of the new technology there is little room for improvement in efficiencies. I feel it is only a short amount of time until the wood burning appliances will reach their peak efficiency. I would say an industry standard would be around 2 to 3 grams/hour and this year we have a new hybrid by Travis with emissions of under .5. The largest stoves are usually the biggest polluters and Regency has now the largest stove built with the cleanest burn at 1.46 grams per hour for a 4.46 cubic foot firebox.

All of the most efficient products are released each year at the HPBA show. This is usually held in the end of March and alternates from east to west each year. This year, 2014 it is in Salt Lake City. This is a show place for manufacturers to get an idea of what the industry thinks about the products they have been working on. There is also a Vesta award, this is for

the best or most efficient product of the show. The competition is always quite strong as every manufacturer wants this award.

We are promoting clean and efficient burning practices. I feel that we are successful as most people will listen and do their part or at least try to be more efficient. As far as the stove exchange program, I am hoping for 7 or 8 participants this year. It will be a shame if the program does not continue next year.

The Woodstove Exchange Program uptake has decreased this year. I think that the wood burning is too much work for most people. Plus there is always the cleaning issues and you will always have some smoke residue. As I said before, natural gas is so cheap now it is hard for wood to compete. I feel the other factor is that people just do not think \$ 500.00 is a big deal. Plus our drop in advertising may also be part of it, so possible lack of public awareness. I see most just removing the wood and going for the convenience, less work and less mess of gas.

For a self assessment of the retail sector I would say it is medium. We are all trying to do better however the economy does have a bearing on it and as it improves I feel the overall efficiency of the retailers will continue to improve.

Please indicate your self-assessed progress during the past 6 months:

Low

Medium

High