

STATE OF COLORADO

Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor
James B. Martin, Executive Director

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

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Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

Jeremy Nichols
Director
Rocky Mountain Clean Air Action
1536 Wynkoop, Suite B501
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Dear Jeremy:

A number of actions have taken place since your December letter to the Division and subsequent discussion with Margie Perkins.

As you know, the Air Quality Control Commission (AQCC) adopted revisions to Regulation 7 on December 17 that will result in significant reductions in VOC emissions statewide. The AQCC also has asked the Division to periodically report on oil and gas issues.

As the Division conducts an assessment of statewide ozone issues, existing ozone data [including data from U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Clean Air Status and Trends Network (CASTNET), and tribal sites as well as sites in neighboring states] is taken into account. Because ozone is a secondary pollutant, ozone impacts likely occur some distance downwind from the sources of precursor emissions. Therefore, oil and gas impacts may be monitored at these locations, though APCD is assessing whether or not this monitoring network is adequate. In addition, the Division is conducting a modeling analysis that will tell us more about potential areas of ozone impacts on the Western Slope. On a parallel path, we are developing an estimate of the resources that would be required to expand ozone monitoring and VOC sampling to this area.

The Division anticipates reporting on these matters, as well as the other oil and gas issues, as part of a briefing to the AQCC later this spring.

Sincerely,

Paul Tourangeau
Division Director
Air Pollution Control Division

cc: Matt Sura

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