To: Thomas, Deb[thomas.debrah@epa.gov]; Garcia, Bert[Garcia.Bert@epa.gov]
Cc: Bohan, Suzanne[bohan.suzanne@epa.gov]
From: O'Connor, Darcy[/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=80EEDAE64AE54ED395E72F0CBB29DA48-OCONNOR, DARCY]
Sent: Fri 2/3/2017 4:50:33 PM (UTC)
Subject: RE: R8 Weekly Report

Sorry Deb. Peter Grevatt said the paper was going on Thursday.

D

From: Thomas, Deb
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2017 9:11 AM
To: O'Connor, Darcy <oconnor.darcy@epa.gov>; Garcia, Bert <Garcia.Bert@epa.gov>
Cc: Bohan, Suzanne <bohan.suzanne@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: R8 Weekly Report

Please make sure we verify statements that I am sending to the Administrators office. See note below.

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Shapiro, Mike" <Shapiro.Mike@epa.gov>
> **Date:** February 3, 2017 at 8:55:19 AM MST
> **To:** "Connors, Sandra" <Connors.Sandra@epa.gov>, "Thomas, Deb" <thomas.debrah@epa.gov>
> **Cc:** "Campbell, Ann" <Campbell.Ann@epa.gov>
> **Subject: RE: R8 Weekly Report**
>
> Sandra and Deb,
>
> There may be some confusion here. OW has not sent a paper to Mike on this issue. We have been working with the Region and are in the process of preparing a note that would go up as early as today.
>
> Mike
>
> Michael Shapiro
> Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Water
> US EPA, 4101M
> 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
> Washington, DC 20460
> 202-564-5700
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Connors, Sandra
> **Sent:** Friday, February 03, 2017 10:27 AM
> **To:** Thomas, Deb <thomas.debrah@epa.gov>; Shapiro, Mike <Shapiro.Mike@epa.gov>
> **Subject:** FW: R8 Weekly Report
>
> Deb/Mike – Could you please resend to me the email/briefing paper you reference that was shared on the second issue below with Mike Flynn so we can get back to you? Thanks!
>
> *Sandra*
>
> ---
>
> Sandra L. Connors
> Senior Advisor
> Office of the Administrator
> US Environmental Protection Agency
> 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, Room 3317
> Washington, DC 20460
> (202)564-4231
> connors.sandra@epa.gov

From: Thomas, Deb
Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2017 7:39 PM
To: Actadmmccabe, Catherine17 <Actadmmccabe.catherine17@epa.gov>; Flynn, Mike <Flynn.Mike@epa.gov>
Cc: Reeder, John <Reeder.John@epa.gov>; Richardson, RobinH <Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>; Kenny, Shannon <Kenny.Shannon@epa.gov>; Hull, George <Hull.George@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Connors, Sandra <Connors.Sandra@epa.gov>; Shapiro, Mike <Shapiro.Mike@epa.gov>; Dunham, Sarah <Dunham.Sarah@epa.gov>
Subject: R8 Weekly Report

Weekly Report from R8

This Week

Uinta-Basin (Utah) wintertime ozone: The Uinta Basin (Utah) has experienced high levels of ozone, almost entirely attributed to oil and gas activities, and will most likely be designated nonattainment later this year. 75% of the oil and gas development occurs on the Uintah & Ouray Indian Reservation. This week (January 29-31, 2017) monitors in the Uinta Basin recorded 8-hour ozone concentrations above the 70 parts per billion (ppb) ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Values of 73, 88 and 97 ppb were recorded. No break in the weather pattern is in the forecast for the next few days, so February 1 will likely be the fourth day in a row with ozone exceedances. The fourth highest 8-hour ozone average of the year is the regulatory value used to determine compliance with the NAAQS. The Uinta Basin has had winter ozone exceedances in six of the past eight years. Emission Inventory Data/ Follow-up with Industry: To prepare for the likely development of a State Implementation Plan (for State Land) and Federal Implementation Plan (for Indian Country) in the Uintah Basin, Region 8 has worked closely with the Utah Division of Air Quality, the Ute Tribe and industry to develop a detailed 2014 emission inventory. This inventory is needed to establish an emissions baseline from which modeling can be performed and rulemaking developed to reduce emissions contributing to ozone exceedances. In December 2016, EPA R8 had a call with operators to discuss the need to resolve discrepancies in the data. R8 is preparing to send the 30 oil and gas operators in the Uinta Basin an email, as a follow-up to the call in December 2016, asking the operators to address/clarify discrepancies in the emissions inventory data they submitted in 2016.

Week Ahead

Draft permits and aquifer exemption documents for a uranium in-situ recovery project near the Black Hills, South Dakota are ready for public notice. The Region 8 Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program is preparing to issue draft Class III and V UIC area permits and a proposed aquifer exemption decision to Powertech (USA) Inc. in the next two weeks for a proposed uranium in-situ recovery (ISR) project northwest of Edgemont, South Dakota. The permits allow for injection into an aquifer for extraction of uranium and deep injection wells for disposal of treated ISR process waste fluids. The proposed project site is near the Black Hills, where several tribal nations have historic claims or consider this area to be sacred. Through consultation with EPA, several tribes have raised concerns about potential impacts on historic properties of cultural importance. There will be a 60-day public comment period on the draft permits and aquifer exemption and public outreach events (including hearings) near the site to allow ample opportunity for tribes and other stakeholders to provide comments. Office of Water provided a background briefing paper to Mike Flynn on this project the week of January 30th. R8 will not issue the draft permits unless there is agreement from HQ.

Debra H. Thomas
Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region 8
303-312-6298