Message

From: Morales, Monica [Morales.Monica@epa.gov]
Sent: 2/5/2021 9:02:43 PM
To: Farris, Laura [Farris.Laura@epa.gov]
CC: Fiedler, Kerri [Fiedler.Kerri@epa.gov]; Daly, Carl [Daly.Carl@epa.gov]; Jackson, Scott [Jackson.Scott@epa.gov]; Lohrke, Gregory [lohrke.gregory@epa.gov]; Olson, Kyle [Olson.Kyle@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Air quality/inland port issues in Utah

Yes, please send me the emails. Thanks.

Monica Morales
Acting Deputy Director
Air and Radiation Division (8ARD)
U.S. EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, Colorado 80202-1129
Phone: (303) 312-6936
morales.monica@epa.gov

From: Farris, Laura <Farris.Laura@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 1:51 PM
To: Morales, Monica <Morales.Monica@epa.gov>
Cc: Fiedler, Kerri <Fiedler.Kerri@epa.gov>; Daly, Carl <Daly.Carl@epa.gov>; Jackson, Scott <Jackson.Scott@epa.gov>; Lohrke, Gregory <lohrke.gregory@epa.gov>; Olson, Kyle <Olson.Kyle@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Air quality/inland port issues in Utah
Importance: High

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Attached is a presentation I gave to the UIPA last March, and there are also several emails that I sent to them over the past year. Would you like to see those?

Laura

Laura Farris, EPA Region 8 Air and Radiation Division
Coordinator for Greenhouse Gases, Resiliency, and Community Revitalization
EPA Region 8 Lead for the SmartWay Program and Ports Initiative
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202
303-312-6388

From: Morales, Monica <Morales.Monica@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 12:51 PM

To: Farris, Laura <Farris.Laura@epa.gov>
Cc: Fiedler, Kerri <Fiedler.Kerri@epa.gov>; Daly, Carl <Daly.Carl@epa.gov>; Jackson, Scott <Jackson.Scott@epa.gov>; Lohrke, Gregory <lohrke.gregory@epa.gov>; Olson, Kyle <Olson.Kyle@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Air quality/inland port issues in Utah

Hi Laura – Do we have any briefing papers, other info regarding the Inland Port in SLC area that you can send to me today? Deb is requesting it per her email below.

Thanks.

Monica Morales
Acting Deputy Director
Air and Radiation Division (8ARD)
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1595 Wynkoop Street
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Phone: (303) 312-6936
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From: Thomas, Deb <thomas.debrah@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 12:39 PM
To: Strobel, Philip <Strobel.Philip@epa.gov>; Daly, Carl <Daly.Carl@epa.gov>; Morales, Monica <Morales.Monica@epa.gov>; Schefski, Kenneth <Schefski.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Sutin, Elyana <Sutin.Elyana@epa.gov>; Smith, Mark A. <Smith.Marka@epa.gov>
Cc: O'Connor, Darcy <oconnor.darcy@epa.gov>; Wood, MelanieL <Wood.MelanieL@epa.gov>; McIntosh, Karen <McIntosh.Karen@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Air quality/inland port issues in Utah

I told Avi I would get back to him next week. Please forward me any background information already in existence on this issue and forward this email to other key R8 folks that should be included on this request.

Karen, please schedule a meeting with myself and representative from NEPA. Air, ORC and EJ on Wednesday or Thursday of next week.

Thanks-
Deb

From: Garbow, Avi <Garbow.Avi@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 12:00 PM
To: Thomas, Deb <thomas.debrah@epa.gov>; Goffman, Joseph <Goffman.Joseph@epa.gov>; Adhar, Radha <Adhar.Radha@epa.gov>
Cc: Utech, Dan <Utech.Dan@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Air quality/inland port issues in Utah

Adding a few folks for awareness purposes.

Deb and Joe – would value your input on this issue and request for a meeting. Radha – also welcome your thoughts regarding any Utah state/congressional issues relating to this matter. Thanks very much.

Avi

From: brian moench Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 1:51 PM
To: Thomas, Deb <thomas.debrah@epa.gov>; Garbow, Avi <Garbow.Avi@epa.gov>; Utech, Dan <Utech.Dan@epa.gov>
Subject: Air quality/inland port issues in Utah

Feb. 5, 2021

Dear Ms. Thomas, Mr. Garbow, and Mr. Utech:

Leading Utah state and regional environmental groups are very concerned about serious plans being made by the Utah legislature to subsidize and otherwise facilitate the development of an inland port, i.e. a massive warehouse farm and intermodal shipping and transportation hub a few miles northwest of the center of Salt Lake City. The legislature has proceeded in defiance of environmental, wildlife, and public health concerns for the population centers of the state, especially for the 270,000 people that live close enough to the proposed port to be severely affected by the new sources of air pollution. The anticipated public health harm is easily predicted by the saga of other inland port developments, like the Inland Empire in Riverside/San Bernardino, So. California, that has been infamously nick named, The Diesel Death Zone by many residents in the area. Polls show that the majority of Salt Lake Valley residents oppose the port.

As you are undoubtedly aware, the Salt Lake Valley has been in non-attainment status for the 24 hr. PM2.5 standard for many years, although the EPA under the previous administration proposed changing that status using inappropriate criteria in our view. At full build out, this facility would create a massive new source of pollution from nearly 70,000 daily diesel semi-trucks, and 150,000 passenger vehicle trips, dozens of new fully loaded commodity train trips, new large train "switcher" diesel engines, a new rail yard, diesel-powered cranes and increased air traffic. The size of the warehouse farm would be comparable to what now exists at the Inland Empire.

As a multi-faceted, new source of pollution, this facility would undermine, if not shatter our attainment status, especially for nearby residents, and represent an environmental justice issue of an unprecedented magnitude in Utah. But it has not been factored into the state's implementation plan (SIP).

We are aware that the state is attempting to justify NAAQS attainment status using Section 179B of the CAA, negating emissions emanating from outside the US. That in itself strikes a blow at public health in Utah. Yet now the state is trying to make it even worse trying to write off or ignore the multiple new sources of pollution from their port proposal which they have proclaimed the largest economic project in the history of the state.

The port is also intended to facilitate a substantial increase in fossil fuel extraction from the state, something that clearly would be contrary to the climate goals of the new administration.

On behalf of multiple environmental NGOs and community groups, we request an opportunity to explain to you more details of our many objections to this proposal. Given that the state is moving quickly with supporting legislation right now, we hope such a virtual meeting could take place as soon as possible. We look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian Moench
President, Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment
801 243 9089

Heather Dove
President, Great Salt Lake Audubon

Richard Holman
Chair, Board of Directors, Westside Coalition

Dorothy P. Owen
Chairman of the Board,
Westpointe Community Council (home of the Utah Inland Port Authority)

Jeanine Kuhn-Coker
President, League of Women Voters of Salt Lake

Catherine Weller, Vickie Samuelson
Co-presidents, League of Women Voters of Utah

Alan Neuman,
Chairman, Utah Environmental Caucus

Roger Borgenicht, Ann Floor
Co-chairs, Utahns for Better Transportation

Steve Erickson, Policy Advocate
Utah Audubon Council

Alex Farley
Sustainability Director
University of Utah

Joan M. Gregory
Co-Chair, Environmental Ministry, First Unitarian Church of Salt Lake City

Jill Merritt
Director, Elders Rising for Intergenerational Justice

Raphael Cordray
Director, Utah Tar Sands Resistance

Marc Coles-Ritchie
Board Chair, Mormon Environmental Stewardship Alliance