



To Protect and Promote the Health and the Environment of the People of Kittitas County

August 30th, 2016

Advance Program
c/o Laura Bunte
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, C304-01
Research Triangle Park, NC 27711

Dear Ms. Bunte:

The Kittitas County Public Health Department (KCPHD) intends to participate in the PM Advance program with respect to Kittitas County, Washington. We have partnered with the Washington State Department of Ecology's (Ecology) Air Quality Program and the Kittitas County Air Quality Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from Kittitas County Solid Waste, HopeSource (local non-profit), Ecology, Central Washington University Chemistry and Sociology Departments, Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue as well as local businesses and realtors. In addition, we now wish to partner with the Environmental Protection Agency to improve air quality in Kittitas County, Washington. We meet program eligibility based on the following criteria:

1. Kittitas County is not currently designated a nonattainment area for fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) according to 2012 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).
2. The entire county of Kittitas is proposed for enrollment. Kittitas County has 43,269 residents in an area of 2,333 square miles. It includes the cities of Ellensburg (county seat with ~20,000 residents), Cle Elum, South Cle Elum, Roslyn, and Kittitas, as well as the unincorporated communities of Thorp, Easton, Ronald, Snoqualmie Pass, and Vantage. Ellensburg is also home to Central Washington University, with approximately 10,000 students. Geographically, it is located east of the Cascade Mountain range, centered by a NW-SE oriented valley where atmospheric inversion layers are common during cold winter months. This region is a semi-arid shrub-steppe ecosystem.
3. Kittitas County currently hosts two co-located PM_{2.5} air monitors at the Hal Holmes Community Center in Ellensburg. A nephelometer, owned and maintained by Ecology, was supplemented in fall 2014 with a Federal Equivalent Monitor, also owned and maintained by Ecology, to start "official" data collection to establish attainment or non-attainment designation in the following three years. Two portable indoor air monitors, obtained through federal grant funding for the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response program, are available at the Kittitas County Public Health Department as needed for



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emergency situations. In addition, one nephelometer and two personal black carbon (BC) monitors have been acquired by Central Washington University with funds from Ecology, for mobile monitoring studies. Besides PM_{2.5} and sporadic BC measurements, no other air monitoring is underway.

4. Kittitas County has submitted all required reports for the National Emissions Inventory through Ecology. Documentation can be requested from the Air Quality Section Manager for Ecology's Central Regional Office, Susan Billings, (509) 575-2486, susan.billings@ecy.wa.gov or found at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/EmissionInventory/AirEmissionInventory.htm>.

Efforts supported by the PM Advance program in Kittitas County would help to:

- Reduce the level of PM_{2.5}, including air pollutants
- Maintain air quality levels in accordance with NAAQS
- Avoid future violations of NAAQS that could lead to future nonattainment
- Increase public awareness about PM_{2.5} as an air pollutant
- Promote public participation in preserving healthy air quality

Our goal is to implement new measures and programs, reduce particulate matter levels in Kittitas County, Washington and to continue existing messaging and outreach to community residents. It is in our best interest to work with our stakeholders and the public to achieve this goal.

Please contact me via email at kimberly.sarver@co.kittitas.wa.us or by phone at (509) 962-7680 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kimberly Sarver", written over a horizontal line.

Kimberly Sarver
Environmental Health
Specialist
Kittitas County Public Health
Department

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Holly Myers", written over a horizontal line.

Holly Myers
Environmental Health
Supervisor
Kittitas County Public Health
Department

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Obie O'Brien", written over a horizontal line.

Obie O'Brien,
Chairman
Kittitas County Board of
County Commissioners

CC: Christi Duboiski, EPA PM Advance Program

