

## This Month at NESCAUM October 2018

### Science and Technology

**Residential Wood Heating:** NESCAUM participated in the NACAA Strategic Workshop on State-Local Action to Address Emissions from Residential Wood Heating held on October 2-3 in Sacramento, CA. Discussions focused on state activities in light of recent congressional and anticipated EPA actions. Contact: [Lisa Rector](#).

### Mobile Sources

**California Air Resources Board “Deemed to Comply” Hearing:** On September 28, NESCAUM submitted [written comments](#) and testified at a California Air Resources Board (CARB) hearing in support of proposed amendments to the “deemed to comply” provision of California’s Low-Emission Vehicle III Greenhouse Gas (GHG) regulation. In addition, NESCAUM coordinated a panel presentation by representatives of seven Section 177 states (CT, MA, NJ, NY, OR, VT and WA) that also testified in support of the amendments. Currently, the federal and California light duty vehicle GHG emission standards for model year (MY) 2021-2025 provide equivalent emission reductions. To reduce the compliance burden on automakers, existing California regulations accept compliance with the federal standards as a demonstration of compliance with the California standards. The proposed amendments are intended to clarify that the “deemed to comply” option for MY 2021-2025 is applicable only to the currently adopted federal standards. In the event that proposed changes to weaken the current federal GHG standards are adopted, the clarifications to the “deemed to comply” provision will ensure that the critical emission benefits of California’s program are not lost. CARB’s unanimous approval of the “deemed to comply” amendments at the hearing paves the way for Section 177 states to adopt corresponding changes to their regulations incorporating California’s GHG standards. Contact: [Kathy Kinsey](#).

**CARB Heavy-duty Vehicle Low NOx Technology Demonstration Event:** On November 7-8, Kathy Kinsey will be participating in a heavy-duty vehicle low NOx technology demonstration event in San Diego, CA being co-organized by CARB. The demonstration event will unveil a prototype diesel piston engine for Class 8 tractors that achieves a 90% reduction in NOx (0.02 g/bhp-hr) while exceeding by a factor of 3 the engine fuel economy/GHG improvements to occur with the national Phase 2 heavy-duty vehicle GHG standards. NESCAUM’s purpose in participating in the event is to show California and the engine manufacturers the continuing interest of states outside of California in obtaining greater NOx and GHG reductions from heavy-duty vehicles in order to meet air quality and climate goals. Contact: [Paul Miller](#).

**NESCAUM/Plug-In America Webinars and Workshop: Making Electric Vehicle Charging Consumer Friendly:** Following the release of the Northeast Corridor Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy in May, NESCAUM has partnered with Plug-In America on a set of webinars and a two-day workshop in Boston intended to address overarching electric vehicle charging consumer use issues identified by the Northeast Corridor states in the Regional

Infrastructure Strategy. A September 20 informational webinar for the Northeast Corridor states and interested stakeholders, and an upcoming webinar on October 18, are focusing on the need for open access to charging stations, convenient billing options, pricing transparency and other related issues to ensure that EV drivers in the Northeast Corridor states have broad access to a consistently reliable and convenient public charging network. The webinars are in preparation for a November 1-2 workshop in Boston with state representatives, industry experts and stakeholders where options and recommendations to address consumer use issues will be discussed. Contact: [Elaine O’Grady](#).

**Safer Affordable Fuel Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule Hearing:** On September 25, NESCAUM testified in Dearborn, Michigan, at the second of three public hearings on the proposed SAFE Vehicles Rule. The [NESCAUM testimony](#) conveyed strong opposition on behalf of the majority of NESCAUM member states to the proposed weakening of federal greenhouse gas standards for model years 2021-2025 light-duty vehicles. It also objected to any curtailment of states’ rights under the Clean Air Act to adopt motor vehicle emission standards. NESCAUM is preparing a more detailed set of written comments for submittal to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency by the close of the formal public comment period on October 26. Contact: [Sarah McKernan](#).

### **Committee Updates**

**Air Toxics and Public Health Committee (ATPH):** The annual ATPH Committee meeting will be held on October 25 and 26 in Albany, NY. Agenda topics include state updates, an EPA overview of the 2014 National Air Toxics Assessment (NATA), passive benzene monitoring, fumigation issues at ports, hydrogen sulfide issues at landfills, recent changes to the NJ Air Toxics Program, alternative dry-cleaning solvents update, and a summary of the 2018 ozone season. Please contact Kara Murphy if you would like to attend via webinar. The next committee call, scheduled for Thursday October 18, at 2 pm, is canceled. Contact: [Kara Murphy](#).

**Attainment Planning Committee (APC):** The next monthly call of the NESCAUM APC will be on November 7 at 2 pm. Please send any agenda items to George Allen. Contact: [George Allen](#).

**Compliance and Enforcement Committee:** The Compliance and Enforcement Committee held its quarterly call on October 9. Items discussed including tracking of relevant EPA changes in policies and rules, training opportunities, workgroup priorities for the coming year, and planning for the Committee’s next annual meeting in December. Contact: [Lisa Rector](#).

**Mobile Sources Committee:** The Mobile Sources Committee (formerly known as the LEV Workgroup) held a call on October 11. On the call, the Committee discussed the development of a new “Mobile Sources 101” training course; the federal government’s “SAFE” vehicles rule proposal; the California Air Resources Board’s “deemed to comply” rulemaking; and a number of issues related to the Optional Compliance Path for Section 177 States under the ZEV

regulation. The next Mobile Sources Committee call is scheduled for November 8, 2018.  
Contact: [Elaine O'Grady](#).

**Monitoring and Assessment Committee (MAC):** The annual meeting of the NESCAUM Monitoring and Assessment Committee will be in Portsmouth, NH on November 27 and 28, 2018 at the Pease International Tradeport. Please send any agenda items to George Allen.  
Contact: [George Allen](#).

**Permit Modeling Committee (PMC):** The PMC annual meeting was held on September 20-21 at Rutgers University EcoComplex, Bordentown, NJ. NESCAUM states and EPA presented their updates during the first day of the meeting. The second day covered two topics: 1) modeling of fumigation at ports by NJ and 2) meteorological data issues. New York was chosen as the PMC chair for 2019. At the end of the meeting, PMC members participated in two site visits: 1) landfill gas-to-energy facility with reciprocating engine generator, and 2) tour of the Rutgers University Eco-Complex. Contact: [Mahdi Ahmadi](#).

### **Training**

To access the most recent NESCAUM Training Schedule and Grant Expense Report, please click [here](#). Note that with the beginning of FY19 on October 1, NESCAUM is receiving an additional \$313,950 for training that will be reflected in the next expense report. Contact: [Kara Murphy](#).