

September 13, 2004

PAWG Socioeconomic Meeting

Meeting Date: October, 27, 2004

Meeting Time: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Meeting Place: Lovatt Room at the Sublette County Public Library

Agenda

1. Task Group (TG) introductions
2. Select an individual who will record the official minutes for the meeting.
3. Discuss a strategy for:
 - a. Developing a monitoring plan that provides the strategy for identifying and gathering the necessary data for understanding the socioeconomic impacts associated with the activity occurring in the study area
 - i. Develop a source of funding for the monitoring
 - ii. Develop a monitoring agreement
 - iii. Identify who will be responsible for gathering the data
 - b. Reporting the findings to the appropriate entities and then providing any subsequent follow-up work as deemed necessary
4. Meetings
 - a. TG leader will meet with the PAWG on November 4, 2004 to:
 - i. Report on progress to date
 - ii. Ask for clarification or direction on items or tasks that are still unclear
 - b. TG leader will meet with the PAWG in Feb, 2005
 - i. Identify who is going to pay for gathering the data
 - ii. Present the terms of the monitoring agreement
 - iii. Discuss who was selected to do the monitoring
5. Select the TG leadership
6. Public comment
7. Adjournment

Minutes of PAWG Socioeconomic Task Group Meeting
October 27, 2004 Pinedale Library Lovatt Room

1. Gary Long facilitated the meeting
 - a. Gary handed out the regulations covering the role of advisory groups and the charter for the groups.
 - b. Roy Allen handed out:
 - i. Agenda for the meeting
 - ii. Email from Carol Kruse with the Subject being "Info. and changes for upcoming PAWG Task Group meetings"
 - iii. Proposed agenda for the November 4, 2004 Pinedale Anticline Working Group
 - iv. List of Working Group members
2. Tom Burns and Ward Wise requested to be members of the group.
3. There was a discussion regarding who could be on the work group and how conflicts would be resolved. It was decided that the group would determine a position based on a group consensus. And if a consensus couldn't be reached, the group would report that back to the PAWG.
4. The group discussed how they would get their recommendations to the PAWG and how the PAWG reported to the BLM. And there was also a discussion regarding how the BLM would react to their recommendations.
5. There was a discussion regarding possible conflicts of interest of group members. This led to a discussion of the Advisory Committees regulations that Gary handed out where 1784.2-2 addresses Avoidance of conflict of interest. It was noted that 1784.2-2 (a) states "...normally shall not serve on advisory committees except..., which was the subject of further group discussions. Based on the wording in this section, the group voted in favor of allowing persons that may have a conflict of interest to be working group members. The reasoning was that all members had divulged their interests and they have "...special knowledge...", which is mentioned in 1784.2-2 (a) (3) and by a unanimous vote (9-0) the group wanted them to be included in the working group.
6. There was a discussion regarding whether or not the meetings should be taped and then meeting notes be transcribed from the tapes.
 - a. There was a vote on taping the meetings with the knowledge the tape would then be a part of the public record. The vote was 4 in favor and 5 opposed (no consensus).
 - b. With regard to the meeting notes, it was decided by a unanimous vote (9-0) that notes will be taken in accordance with the Charter.
7. It was decided by unanimous vote (9-0) that the next two meetings will be on the dates published in the Federal Register (November 17, 2004 and December 14, 2004).
8. Funding the monitoring was discussed and it was suggested that we explore the possibility of obtaining state funding through the Federal Land Policy Account and to also contact Mary Flanderska with the State of Wyoming for possible funding.
9. There was a discussion regarding what the group needed to look at in terms of other studies that would be helpful in making their recommendations.
10. Some in the group wanted to know what is monitoring and what we need to monitor. Those questions were followed by a discussion focused on what the impacts might be as a result of monitoring.
11. There was a question regarding the meaning of Socioeconomics. Gary Long answered that question by describing what is meant by the term Socioeconomics.

12. Eric Sechrist came in after lunch and asked the question if this work group is a result of Questar's proposed winter drilling program. The discussion that followed indicated that the development of this group is not associated with Questar's winter drilling proposal.
13. We broke into three groups and handed out the Mitigation and Monitoring plan and associated documents for the Wheatland Power Plant provided by Jim Thompson, who is from the University of Wyoming. Each group then reviewed the documents with the goal of seeing if there was anything of value in these documents for our group. There was some discussion regarding the general contents of these documents. And it was mentioned that there was some interesting work that needed to be further explored in these documents. But nothing was decided concerning the specifics of these documents and their applicability to our effort.
14. The group decided to work on issues. Gary Long brought in a flip chart and recorded the issues collectively identified by the group. Those issues are:
 - a. Housing
 - b. Emergency Services
 - c. Social Services
 - d. Public Services
 - e. Public Safety
 - f. Health Care
 - g. Crime and Drug Issues
 - h. Education
 - i. Demographics
 - j. Economic Diversification
 - k. Quality of Life Indicators
15. There was some discussion on what constitutes the driving factor for the issues that have been identified. Roy Allen suggested the driving factor is employment and the population generated from that employment. And in order to be in a position to react to the growth, the demographics of the employees needs to be addressed because of the role it plays in the growth issues arising out of the anticipated population boom.
16. Steve Reynolds generated a discussion that focused on the need to update the data and resultant forecasts from the EIS and Record of Decision (ROD). He suggested we need to develop updated trend data reflecting what has actually happened since the ROD was published. He said he could put together something that updated:
 - a. Price of Oil and Gas
 - b. Drilling Activity
 - c. Production
17. There was more discussion focusing on observed changes in population driven by employment. And the question asked is to what extent is this impact related to the Oil and Gas activity in Sublette County.
18. Monitoring categories were mentioned as it relates to Population Changes. The categories identified were:
 - a. Size trends
 - b. Population makeup
 - c. Should both Sublette and Sweetwater counties be analyzed?

19. Roy Allen brought up the idea of developing a survey that would be filled out by the major players working in the Anticline. This survey instrument would be designed to give us employment data and the associated demographic data that would be an aid in understanding the origin and type of impacts likely to occur as a result of the Oil and Gas activity in the Anticline.
20. It was mentioned that there may be some data that could be acquired from sales tax information.
21. Carmel Kail was unanimously elected as the group leader.
22. Jana Weber was unanimously elected as the note taker with the understanding that she may not be able to attend the November 17, 2004 meeting and someone from the group would fill in for her at that meeting.
23. The idea of inviting Professors from the University of Wyoming was discussed. The names that came up were:
 - a. Tex Taylor
 - b. Roger Coupal
 - c. Jim Thompson
24. There was a discussion regarding the possible sources for employment data. The sources identified were:
 - a. Census reports
 - b. Company records
 - c. Surveys
25. The meeting was adjourned

Certified as accurate

Carmel L. Kail
TG Chair