



CITY OF GARDEN CITY OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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May 11, 2022

Matt Stoll
Executive Director
AQB

Dear Matt,

Fellow AQB members,

As we approach the 2023 budget discussion scheduled for our July meeting, Matt and I need official guidance from the jurisdictions that you represent as articulated below. I am cancelling the May 16, 2022, Air Quality Board meeting and asking you to contact your local government representatives to discuss their intended direction for the future of the Ada County Air Quality Board and associated enabling local ordinances requiring emissions testing.

Please remind your respective elected policymakers that vehicle emission testing is required in Ada County at three levels: (1) State of Idaho law; (2) federal requirement specified and agreed to in Northern Ada County Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan; and (3) city and county ordinances in Ada County implementing the Maintenance Plan requirement. During the 2022 Idaho Legislative session, Senate Bill 1264 was passed by the Senate and House and signed into law by Governor Little to strike the requirement of vehicle emission testing in Idaho from state law effective July 1, 2023. This action eliminates the vehicle emission testing program in Canyon County on July 1, 2023.

That action does not impact the federal requirement contained in the Maintenance Plan nor the local ordinances requiring vehicle emission testing in northern Ada County. In December 2022, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) intends to request the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) remove the federal requirement of vehicle emissions testing in northern Ada County. IDEQ will provide US EPA with data and analyses showing the removal of vehicle emission testing in northern Ada County will have negligible impacts upon ambient air quality levels, especially carbon monoxide, in the future. If the US EPA agrees with the demonstration and request to remove the federal mandate for vehicle emission testing in northern Ada County, the local ordinances will still be in effect, but can be repealed without impacting Ada County's standing relative to federal ambient air quality standards and associated maintenance plans.

To plan and budget for the future of the Ada County Air Quality Board, we need to know whether Ada County and the cities within the county intend to keep or repeal their enabling local ordinances requiring vehicle emission testing within their jurisdictions if the US EPA removes the associated federal mandate for the program. Each jurisdiction's intended direction is needed to provide guidance into the FY2023 budget development process, including consideration of a short-term or long-term software vendor contract coming up for renewal in September 2022, and to provide direction to station owners.

Please be prepared to provide your jurisdiction's intended direction regarding the future of vehicle emission testing in northern Ada County at the July 18, 2022, board meeting. Your direction at the July 18 meeting is critical, as the FY2023 budget will need to be prepared for adoption at the September 2022 AQB meeting.

Matt Stoll is available to answer any questions or provide information as you consider your jurisdiction's intended direction.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'John', written over a thin blue horizontal line.

John