



Delta County Region Air Quality Sampling Program

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Citizens for A Healthy Community (CHC) is a Delta County Region community group that was formed by concerned residents in 2009 to protect people and their environment from irresponsible gas and oil drilling



Why Air Quality Sampling?

- The time to collect baseline air quality data is now.
- Drilling is ramping up in the McClure Pass area along Hwy 133, the major air shed of the North Fork Valley.
- More than 200 gas wells are proposed for the McClure Pass area, and we are at risk for more drilling in the region.
- Developing an air quality baseline is our number one priority.
- Like all Coloradans, the quality of our air and water is very important to our lives.
- Hard data coming out of a similar area (Utah's Uinta Basin) shows very high levels of air pollution which could happen here.



Our Program



- Begins in the fall of 2013 and continues for approximately 1 year to establish a baseline.
- Designed with the assistance of The Endocrine Disruption Exchange (TEDX), international experts on problems associated with low dose exposure to air borne chemicals.
- CHC has consulted with the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment.
- Looking for personal exposure to natural gas fingerprint chemicals.



Methodology



- Sites within the air shed will be strategically selected taking into account oil and gas operations and other potential emissions sources, and initial sampling will cover three to four separate months of the year.
- For 24 hours, trained community members will wear two personal air monitoring devices contained in a small backpack, which are designed to provide data on air quality associated with drilling.
- The first device (a pump and sampling tube) collects polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). The second device, a Summa canister, collects methane and non-methane hydrocarbons.
- Samples are then sent to a lab for analysis.
- Lab analysis results will inform selection of the next sampling locations.



Next Steps



- ▶ CHC is working to identify the first round of sampling locations and residents who will wear the backpacks.
- ▶ CHC will establish a data repository to make the results of the sampling publicly available on our website.
- ▶ Based on evaluation of the program, CHC could then:
 - ▶ establish an ongoing monitoring program for our region as oil and gas development increases, and
 - ▶ assist other Colorado communities in designed similar efforts
- ▶ More info: www.CitizensForAHealthyCommunity.org