



RECEIVED

NOV 04 2010

Rapid City Growth
Management Department

DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT
and NATURAL RESOURCES

PMB 2020
JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 EAST CAPITOL
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3182
www.state.sd.us/denr

November 3, 2010

Mr. Clint Allen, Chair
Rapid City Area Air Quality Board
City of Rapid City
Growth Management Department
300 6th Street
Rapid City, South Dakota 57701-5035

RE: Rapid City Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Network Comment Letter

Dear Mr. Clint Allen:

Thank you for the Rapid City Area Air Quality Board's June 16, 2010, letter in which the Board recommends that the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) review the need for a monitor in the southeast area of the community. The letter addresses concerns with the changes made by the City of Rapid City's road sanding operation and the possibility of an increase in ambient air particulate matter concentrations from this change in the southeast part of the city.

DENR shares the Board's concerns that switching from the chemical deicer to river sand for icy roads could cause an increase in dust levels. The DENR air quality staff in Rapid City have been instructed to look for any visible changes to the air quality in the eastern half of the city and we are reviewing the data from the Library site for any increase in dust levels.

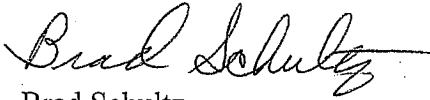
In addition, DENR will work with the city to ensure clean sand that meets the requirements in the Administrative Rules of South Dakota, Chapter 74:36:17 is used on the road and the city sweeps up the material as quickly as possible after the icy road conditions end. These steps are important in keeping dust levels as low as possible.

Currently, DENR has not determined if the sanding change is causing an air quality problem; but will continue to review the Library site data, visual observations, and complaints to determine if a monitoring site in the area is warranted. The Board can assist us by having your staff pass on complaints related to dusty roads in the area.

The Rapid City Area Air Quality Board has and continues to be a significant partner with DENR on maintaining good air quality in the Rapid City area. Good air quality benefits the individuals that work, live and visit the Rapid City area.

Thank you again for your letter and we will keep you apprised of our review. Please contact me by home or by email if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brad Schultz". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Brad Schultz
Environmental Senior Scientist
Air Quality Program
605-773-6038