

I would like to express my disappointment with the performance of the APCD Hearing Board. Parks is playing hardball with you and you are folding. You seem to have forgotten your charter is to protect the health of residents by preserving good air quality. I can understand why the APCO, would cave in from the political pressure caused by the three pro-business county Supervisors. But I don't understand why the APCD Hearing Board is folding.

I am especially disappointed with Professor Yarrow Nelson. An Academic should be smart and honest enough to have rejected the original 4/30/18 Stipulated Order of Abatement for only reducing the Air Pollution by 50%, taking too long (5.5 years), and lacking specifics including air pollution metrics.

Even worse is Professor Nelson's draft Proposed New Order of Abatement dated 11/18/19. I note that Nelson only targets 48 acres plus an additional 4.2 acres targeted for permanent closure/planting this coming year.

My read of Parks PMRP is that Parks claims a need to close and plant at least 500 acres, to get to the 50% pollution mitigation level by 2023. To date Parks has closed only 103 acres in the riding area (~20% of the 500 acres) but has yet to finish planting this area. The proposed 52 acres is only ~10% of the 500 acres required. At the rate of 20%, 10%, 10%, 10%, and a year for plants to grow we only get to half of the required 500 acres by 2023.

So how do you plan to achieve the 50% pollution reduction by 2023? Unfortunately, I think I know the answer. You are giving up on this goal. You have decided to let the 15,000 residents, who are victimized by Parks caused air pollution, continue to have their health damaged and their life span reduced.

I pray you will find the courage to do your job of obtaining good air quality. Order Parks to close off and plant 81 acres in high emissive areas in addition to the 52 acres you have already specified for a total of 133 acres. I suggest you play hardball back to Parks. Tell Parks that you will stipulate the closing of the La Grande tract. if they don't close and vegetate 133 acres for next year and each of the following two years.

Dr. Richard P. Wishner