Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

MEMORANDUM

TO: Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Board of Directors

FROM: Ashley Featherstone, Director

RE: Agenda for July 24, 2025

DATE: Thursday July 17, 2025

Enclosed, please find the Agenda for the Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Board meeting to be held on **Thursday July 24, 2025 at 4:00pm** in the meeting room located at the previous Buncombe County Permit Office at 30 Valley Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

This meeting will be live streamed on Engage Buncombe which can be accessed at https://engage.buncombecounty.org/s8486. The board meeting documents will also be available on the Engage Buncombe site. The meeting will be recorded and can be viewed later.

A reception will be held at 3:30 pm to recognize our Clean Air Excellence Award recipients, Eaton Avery Creek and Footprint Project. The recognition will occur at 4:00 pm at the beginning of the Board Meeting. All Board Members, Advisory Committee Members, and others are welcome to attend the reception.

ASHEVILLE-BUNCOMBE AIR QUALITY AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TENTATIVE AGENDA
JULY 24, 2025 BOARD MEETING

1. **Public Comment Protocol Announcement**

2. **Adjustment and Approval of Agenda**

3. **Consent Agenda:**
   A. Approval of minutes from May 8, 2025
   B. Approval of minutes from June 17, 2025

4. **Special Presentations-Clean Air Excellence Awards**
   A. Eaton Avery Creek
   B. Footprint Project

5. **Unfinished Business:**
   A. Surplus Ozone Equipment

6. **Director's Report:**
   A. Tropical Storm Helene Response, Recovery Update
      1. Post Helene Recovery Update Demolition and Asbestos Removal Permits
      2. Air Curtain Incinerators and Storm Debris Burning
      3. Non-Regulatory-Temporary Air Monitoring and Sensors
      4. Helene Recovery Projects
      5. Sensor Shelter Project
      6. Outreach: Presentations and Town Halls
   B. Air Quality Rule Amendments
   C. Status of Federal Grants-federal fiscal years 2025 and 2026
   D. Credit Card Fees
   E. Monitoring Update
   F. Facility Permit Renewals

Facility Name	Type of Facility	Facility Classification	Location	Changes from Existing Permit
Aprotech Powertrain, LLC	Automotive Components Manufacturer	Small	Adams Hill Road, Asheville	Update insignificant activity list, general conditions
Buncombe County Detention Center	Correctional Facility	Small	Valley Street, Asheville	Update insignificant activity list, general conditions
Mill Tek Toll Grinders	Mineral Product Grinding Facility	Small	Spiral Road, Arden	Update insignificant activity list, general conditions

G. New Facility Permits

Facility Name	Type of Facility	Facility Classification	Location	Proposed Equipment
Smith-Rowe, LLC	Portable Concrete, Stone, and Recycled Asphalt Pavement Crusher	Small	Various sites with local zoning authority approval	Crusher, screen, conveyor belts, generator

B. New Business:

a. None

C. Other Business:

a. Legal Counsel Report
b. Calendar
    i. Next meeting September 11, 2025
    ii. Board Retreat
c. Announcements

D. Public Comment

E. Adjournment

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

MEMORANDUM

TO: Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Board of Directors

FROM: Ashley Featherstone, Director

RE: Minutes for May 8, 2025

DATE: July 17, 2025

Enclosed, please find the Minutes for the Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Board meeting held on **Thursday May 8, 2025 at 4:00pm**. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday June 17, 2025 at 4:00pm** in the meeting room located at the previous Buncombe County Permit Office at 30 Valley Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

This meeting will be live streamed on Engage Buncombe which can be accessed at https://engage.buncombecounty.org/s8486. The board meeting documents will also be available on the Engage Buncombe site. The meeting will be recorded and can be viewed later.

The Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Board of Directors met on Thursday, May 9, 2025, in the meeting room at the Buncombe County Permit Office located at 30 Valley Street, Asheville, N.C.

The attendance of the Board members was as follows:

Members Present:	**Members Absent:**
Ned Guttman	*Karl Koon*
Garry Whisnant	
Joel Storrow	
Caitlin Crossett	

Staff Present: *Ashley Featherstone, Director; James Raiford, Permitting Program Manager; Steve Ensley, Air Quality Monitoring Coordinator; Alex Latta, Air Quality Specialist II; Allison Glass, Air Quality Specialist I; Hannah Rhodes, Air Quality Coordinator*

Others Present: *Amy Broughton, County Attorney; Johanna Cano, CAPE; Timothy Love, Assistant County Manager; Patty Beaver, CIBO; Drew West, CIBO*

Joel Storrow called the meeting of the Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Board of Directors to order on May 8, 2025, at 4:00 pm.

The order of business was as follows:

1. **Public Comment Protocol Announcement**
   A. Joel Storrow read the public comment protocol.

2. **Adjustment and Approval of Agenda**
   A. Garry Whisnant made the motion to approve the agenda.
   B. Ned Guttman seconded the motion.
   C. All present – yes
   D. The motion passed 4-0

3. **Consent Agenda**
   A. Approval of minutes from March 18, 2025
   B. Ned Guttman made the motion to approve the minutes.
   C. Garry Whisnant seconded the motion.
   D. All present – yes
   E. The motion passed 4-0

4. **Unfinished Business**
   A. FY 2025 Budget Amendment

i. Joel Storrow explained that this is the same amendment that was discussed and voted on at the March meeting. However the approval procedures were not properly followed (actual vote not taken), so the Board is voting again on it at this May meeting.
ii. Garry Whisnant made the motion to approve the budget amendment.
iii. Ned Guttman seconded the motion.
iv. All present – yes
v. The motion passed 4-0

B. Consideration of FY 2026 Budget
i. Joel Storrow and Ashley Featherstone referenced the related Excel spreadsheet in the Board packet and discussed the adjustments that had been made from what was proposed at the March meeting.
1) There were a few minor adjustments to salary and benefits, updating them using new formulas for the proper amounts for the upcoming fiscal year.
2) There was also funds for an internship that was not previously removed from the budget, so that has now been updated.
3) There was a shift in funds from the contractor category to the salary category.
4) Along with the spreadsheet, the ordinance itself has been updated to include these updated numbers.
ii. Garry Whisnant made the motion to approve the budget ordinance
iii. Ned Guttman seconded the motion
iv. All present – yes
v. The motion passed 4-0

C. Surplus Ozone Monitoring Equipment
i. Steve Ensley explained that the Agency has spare, older Ozone Monitoring equipment (two calibrators, a monitor, and a zero-calibration unit). We have new equipment, so this is surplus equipment that we can no longer use as the equipment is required to be replaced periodically. At the March Board meeting the Board had decided to offer the equipment to several colleges in the county. This includes UNCA, AB Tech, Warren Wilson, and Montreat College. Steve Ensley reported that he reached out to all of them, but the only response he got with interest was from UNCA.
ii. This donation will have to go before Buncombe County's Board of Commissioners to approve the decision, and our Board would also need to vote on it first.
iii. Caitlin Crossett recused herself from the vote, as it would be a conflict of interest.
iv. Garry Whisnant made the motion to approve the donation of the surplus monitoring equipment to UNCA
v. Ned Guttman seconded the motion
vi. All present – yes
vii. The motion passed 3-0

5. Director's Report

A. Update on move to 35 Woodfin

i. Ashley Featherstone gave an update on the Agency's move to 35 Woodfin Street. Air Quality, along with several other departments, have now moved offices to 35 Woodfin Street.
ii. The Agency was not able to move our lab to the basement or ground floor yet. When construction on the ground floor is complete, we will move the lab over to 35 Woodfin as well. The county will also have a Board meeting room on the ground floor. It is the hope that renovations will be done in July.
iii. Ashley Featherstone explained that staff are still working out some things with the new space, such as door access and where to receive mail, but it is a nice space.
iv. Joel Storrow asked if there is visitor parking at the new building. Ashley Featherstone confirmed that there is a surface parking lot for visitors across from the YMCA. There is also a parking garage behind the building, but that is paid parking.
v. Ashley Featherstone said that we did have the Agency's Advisory Committee meeting at 35 Woodfin Street in April.

B. Reduce to Rebuild Proposal-Permit Fee Modification
i. Ashley Featherstone explained that the county wanted to give relief to residential customers that experienced damages to their homes during Hurricane Helene, and that this Reduce to Rebuild proposal is in relation to that. They did look at fees in surrounding counties while considering this proposal. Some counties are still not charging fees, while other counties started charging normal fees again on January 1st, 2025.
ii. The Borad of Commissioners ultimately decided that they want to provide a 50% reduction in residential permit fees from June 1st, 2025 through December 31st, 2025.
iii. For permits falling under this 50% fee reduction, it will be verified that these residences were damaged specifically by Helene.
iv. While the Board of Commissioners approved this, Air Quality fees are determined by this Board, therefore this Board will need to vote on whether or not they also want to reduce fees alongside the other county departments.
v. Regarding the fee revenue loss estimations in the county's PowerPoint presentation, Ashley Featherstone stated that these are very conservative estimations (over estimated). This is because a lot of the houses included in these estimations are actually being charged commercial fees, rather than residential fees, because they are being torn down through FEMA and other companies as part of larger projects.
vi. Most of Air Quality's residential demolitions are $200. For residences with asbestos, the fee is approximately $480 (depends on square feet).
vii. Joel Storrow reminded the Board that it is only a 50% discount fee, and companies such as Wendy's would also not be included in the fee reduction because they are not residential.
viii. Ashley Featherstone said the fee revenue loss numbers in the packet are worst-case scenario. Also, this is actually additional revenue that we wouldn't normally be receiving, as it is specifically related to Hurricane Helene.
ix. Ned Guttman said he is concerned that in the future we will need to address how we are going to increase funding so that we don't dip into our fund balance.
x. Joel Storrow responded that the Board had a retreat a few years ago just to talk about fee adjustments, and that maybe it's time to do that again so changes to all permit fees can be considered.

xi. Joel Storrow also pointed out that the additional revenue the Agency is making from Helene-related permit fees may end up adding to the fund balance this year, because these are revenues that were not planned for and would not have been a part of the original budget.
xii. Ashley Featherstone said that we have not received our funds yet from the EPA for our recurring 105 grant award. We are hoping we will get those soon.
xiii. Joel Storrow and Ned Guttman talked about having a retreat in Fall.
    1) In the past, the Board chose a date when there was already a Board meeting, and they just met one hour earlier.
    2) By waiting until the Fall, the Board will know the impact of the fund balance.
xiv. Joel Storrow said that in the Agency's by-laws, a public notice needs to be made and open for comments (for 30 days) regarding the 50% residential Helene permit fee reduction. Then, the Board must have a special meeting in June to approve this.
xv. It was decided that this meeting would be held on Tuesday June 17th at 4:00pm.
xvi. Garry Whisnant made the motion to accept the recommendation of a fee reduction, post for public notice, and have a meeting in June.
xvii. Caitlin Crossett seconded the motion.
xviii. All present – yes
xix. The motion passed 4-0

C. Post Helene Recovery Update
    i. Ashley Featherstone said that Agency staff are still busy with ACI's (Air Curtain Incinerators).
        1) We are working with the No Action Assurance Letter from EPA which provides relief from the rules that require these facilities using ACI's to obtain Title V permits.
        2) Riverside Stump Dump has not been operating their ACI.
        3) Staff need to come up with some new processes regarding ACI's.
        4) There are also bio char units that are essentially ACI's that are modified to produce a product that is called bio char. Bio char looks like charcoal and soil scientists are really promoting it, as it can be used on agricultural land damaged by flooding.
        5) Bio char units are very expensive. The US Forest Service wants to use many of these to keep up with the Helene debris in the forests.
        6) We continue to promote ACI's as an alternative to open burning because there is less smoke emitted compared to open burning.
    ii. We are receiving more requests and complaints about open burning of storm debris.
    iii. James Raiford and Mike Matthews have been spending a lot of time on demolition permits for the FEMA program.
        1) Ashley Featherstone said there are around 140 of these permits that need to be entered into our system.
        2) We are currently waiting on FEMA to award contracts, and then the contractor will be responsible for the work which includes obtaining the permits.
        3) There are some issues with insurance companies that are getting worked through.
        4) Another hardship is that we are required to get wet ink signatures for these permits (a federal requirement). We have told FEMA we can bring them the physical papers to sign, but then we will have to scan them and get them into Accela.

5) James Raiford said that the Agency has processed roughly 85 permit applications so far. We've got another 25 or so coming up. Totals could approach 175 at the end of it. All of these are residential homes, but because one group is doing all of them, the federal asbestos NESHAP (National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants) rules require that it must be done using a commercial permit.
6) James Raiford hopes our side of the process will be done by the end of June. He hopes to have all applications ready to go by the end of June.
7) Ashley Featherstone said that we are trying to get everything together on our end so that we are ready for next steps once FEMA is ready to move forward.

iv. Agency staff are participating in town-hall-type functions in the community regarding Hurricane Helene. At these functions, we talk with residents about air quality awareness, open burning, etc.
v. We are receiving more odor complaints related to asphalt plants because of all they are producing post-Helene to help the area rebuild.
vi. There is a county survey accepting project ideas for how residents would like to see the community rebuilt.
vii. Ashley Featherstone is going to a NACAA (National Association of Clean Air Agencies) conference in Texas in May to talk about Helene relief work.

D. Air Quality Awareness Week: May 5-9
   i. The Board of Commissioners issued a proclamation recognizing May 5th through 9th as Air Quality Awareness Week.
   ii. Ashley Featherstone said the Agency has done a couple social media posts about it, including one on ACI's and explaining what they are to the public.
E. Clean Air Excellence Awards-Recommendations
   i. Ned Guttman will cover these in the advisory committee update.
F. Clean Air Compliance Recognition
   i. Ashley Featherstone said that we do Clean Air Compliance Recognition every year for facilities that were in compliance for the previous year. There is a list of facilities that the Agency will be giving these to in the meeting's Board packet.
G. Monitoring Update
   i. Steve Ensley started by talking about monitoring data completeness.
      1) PM2.5 data completeness: 97%
      2) Ozone date completeness: 95%
         a) There is one hour every day that the system does not run, so the data completeness will never be 100%.
   ii. On March 28th, 2025 we had a forecast of code red for buncombe county. It did not end up being a code red day. However, outside of our regulatory monitors, our monitors in Swannanoa and Fairview did go over the standard for the day.
   iii. Steve Ensley thinks that our network and all the various monitors we have out in the field did a good job of showing what residences are experiencing close to their locations.
   iv. In regards to historical data and record keeping, Garry Whisnant asked if we notate reasons for spikes in historical data. For example, will we notate this data as being due to wildfires.

1) Steve Ensley said, yes, the state has us make notes monthly. We flag data that has been affected by smoke or any other occurrence. The state uses that information to make an "exceptional event". The EPA will then choose to exclude the data or allow it to stay. That being said, the state typically only does this if they determine we are going to exceed the annual standard.

v. Steve Ensley showed the AQI (Air Quality Index) table and noted the concentration range. He finds that helpful when he's looking at data. When you look at 24-hour average for an instrument, these are the ranges to determine the daily category.
vi. Ashley Featherstone clarified that the EBAM's in Swannanoa and Fairview did get up to code red, but that in town at the regulatory monitor it didn't get as high over the 24 hour period.
vii. Regarding the code red forecast, Steve Ensley explained that forecasters mainly rely on the regulatory data, but they do look at Purple Air sensor values to inform their decisions, which is probably the reason why they went with a red forecast for that day.
viii. Ashley noted that having extra monitors is more work for staff members Steve Ensley and Allison Glass, but they're doing a great job keeping up with it.
    1) Example: A lawn mower cut a power cord to one of the monitors this week, and Allison had to go out and replace the cord.

H. Facility Permit Renewals

Facility Name	Type of Facility	Facility Classification	Location	Changes from Existing Permit
Red Clay Industries, Inc.	Portable Concrete, Stone, and Recycled Asphalt Pavement Crusher	Small	Three APAC Atlantic sites and various other sites with local zoning authority approval	Update General Conditions

i. Ashley Featherstone said that there are portable crushers at this facility. They often go long periods without operating them in the county, but they have asked to keep their permit active. Permits must be renewed every 8 years.
ii. Ned Guttman made the motion to approve the permit.
iii. Garry Whisnant seconded the motion.
iv. All present – yes
v. The motion passed 4-0

I. Facility Permit Modifications

Facility Name	Type of Facility	Facility Classification	Location	Changes from Existing Permit

B.V. Hedrick Gravel & Sand – North Buncombe Quarry	Stone Crushing & Processing Facility	Synthetic Minor	100 Goldview Road, Weaverville	Addition of a concrete batch plant to existing permit. Changing facility classification from Small to Synthetic Minor.

i. James Raiford explained that Southern Concrete has had a concrete batch plant in the area for many years. That land was not owned by them, and was being used for something else, and so they had to move the plant. B.V. Hedrick owns Southern Concrete (it is the parent plant), which is why the permit modification is under B.V. Hedrick.
ii. James Raiford said that the new location is located next to the Quarry, and some of the material at the quarry is being used at the concrete batch plant, making this an ideal location for Hedrick.
iii. Since B.V. Hedrick owns Southern Concrete, Agency staff determined that, rather than updating Southern Concrete's permit, we would update the B.V. Hedrick permit so they are all under B.V. Hedrick's existing quarry permit.
iv. Joel Storrow asked about the reclassification of the facility from small to synthetic minor.
    1) James Raiford explained that there was a lot of thought put into the classification of the facility.
    2) A big part of the decision was the potential to emit.
        a) Previously, the potential to emit before was below 100 tons (about 92 tons). This number is assuming that the facility runs every hour of the year, which very few companies actually do.
        b) When you add a concrete batch plant, that's another 20 tons of potential to emit (again, that is running every hour of the year).
        c) When you combine those two numbers, it is above 100 tons, and that is the Title V threshold.
        d) Because of this, we have put a limit in the permit that limits the batch plant's emissions of cubic yards so that they will stay below 100 tons (potential emissions).
    3) There was also a toxics assessment that was conducted.
        a) The toxics assessment that needed to be done was due to the facility's arsenic emissions. If they produced more than 109 thousand cubic yards, they would exceed the Toxics Permitting Emissions Rule. This is a safety limit that the state sets, and if they exceed this limit then air quality modeling is needed. If they stay below that limit, we can assume that they will stay below the safe level for emissions.
        b) A lot of facilities will take a toxics limit because of this rule, and then they can avoid spending money on air quality monitoring (which is a more in depth analysis).
        c) Out of an abundance of caution, and with the general public in mind, Air Quality staff did do some air quality modeling because one of the adjacent plants (asphalt plant) did model for arsenic. While this was not required, staff wanted to be proactive.
        d) After doing modeling, it was determined that the concrete plant emissions didn't affect the model. It is a very large piece of land and the two plants are separated from each other, which is why that was the case.

v. Joel Storrow entertained a motion to approve the permit.
vi. Garry Whisnant made the motion to approve the permit.
vii. Ned Guttman seconded the motion.
viii. All present – yes
ix. The motion passed 4-0

6. New Business

A. Consideration of Title V CPI Adjustment

i. Ashley Featherstone said that, every year, we are able to change Title V fees according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) Adjustment from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Once a year the EPA issues a memo with increased minimum fee rates and the corresponding percentage we are able to increase our Title V fees by. Based on this memo, our Agency is proposing to increase tonnage fees from $62 per ton to $64 per ton.
ii. This increase in fees will result in an additional $5,718 in revenue.
iii. Ashley Featherstone and agency staff recommended that the Board approve the fee change.
iv. Ashley Featherstone noted that, while not included in this adjustment, the Board could consider adding a CPI adjustment for other non-Title-V-facility fees in the future.
v. Ashley Featherstone clarified that this increase is already included in the budget.
vi. Joel Storrow entertained a motion to approve the Title V CPI Adjustment.
vii. Ned Guttman made the motion to approve the Title V CPI Adjustment.
viii. Garry Whisnant seconded the motion.
ix. All present – yes
x. The motion passed 4-0

7. Other Business

A. Legal Counsel Report

i. Amy Broughton asked the Board about bi-law adjustments that they wanted made.
1) Example: Should the option for zoom meetings be added for either regular meetings and/or special meetings. That way the Board could have the special meeting, such as the one needed in June, via zoom if ever needed.
2) Amy Broughton also said there are some minor tweaks that need to be made, mostly things that deal with new technology.
a) Example: Our bi-laws currently state that we have to mail our Board packets out, but now we post them online and send them via email.
3) Joel Storrow said we could adjust the bi-laws all at once.
4) It was decided that Joel Storrow, Amy Broughton, and Ashley Featherstone should meet to get a draft of bi-law changes.
5) Joel Storrow suggested the edits be prepared by the September Board meeting.

B. Advisory Committee Report

i. The committee last met on April 29th, 2025 at 35 Woodfin Street. Ned Guttman gave the committee report.
ii. Ned Guttman said that the committee mainly talked about clean air excellence awards. There were two applications. One from Eaton and another from the Footprint Project.

1) Eaton has received this award in the past for another facility, but they have a different facility that this application is for. Their focus is on environmental stewardship. We did ask them for more data, which they have just given to us.
2) The Footprint Project was a project set up for Helene relief. The organization has done a lot of work in sustainable clean-up efforts, so it prevents things that cause air pollution. Keith Bamberger, who is on the committee, has worked a lot with them and spoke very highly to them.
3) The committee recommended that both companies get an award, with Ashley Featherstone determining the appropriate category of award for them based on the scope of project and provided data.

iii. Ned Guttman said Caitlin Crossett gave a presentation on UNCA's sensors. UNCA's EPA grant was turned down, but the current sensors are still operating.
iv. After the Advisory Committee meeting, Ashley Featherstone provided a tour of the 35 Woodfin Street building.
v. For the Clean Air Excellence Awards, Ashley Featherstone said that in previous years, the Advisory Committee made recommendations on the clean air excellence award, and then the Board voted on them. With this, the Board decided to do it the same way this year.
vi. Joel Storrow entertained a motion to approve the awarding of the two Clean Air Excellence Awards suggested by the Advisory Committee.
vii. Ned Guttman made the motion to approve the awards.
viii. Garry Whisnant seconded the motion.
ix. All present – yes
x. The motion passed 4-0

C. Calendar
   i. The next Board meeting was originally scheduled for July 10th, 2025. However, the Board decided to meet on June 17th at 4:00pm to discuss the Reduce to Rebuild residential fee reductions proposal. With this, they also decided to move the regular July Board meeting to July 24th at 4:00pm.
D. Announcements
   i. None

8. Public Comment

A. None

9. Adjournment

A. Garry Whisnant made the motion to adjourn the meeting.
B. Ned Guttman seconded the motion.
C. All present – yes
D. The motion passed 4-0
E. The meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

MEMORANDUM

TO: Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Board of Directors

FROM: Ashley Featherstone, Director

RE: Minutes for June 17, 2025

DATE: July 17, 2025

Enclosed, please find the Minutes for the Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Board meeting held on **Tuesday June 17, 2025 at 4:00pm**. The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday July 24, 2025 at 4:00pm** in the meeting room located at the previous Buncombe County Permit Office at 30 Valley Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

This meeting will be live streamed on Engage Buncombe which can be accessed at https://engage.buncombecounty.org/s8486. The board meeting documents will also be available on the Engage Buncombe site. The meeting will be recorded and can be viewed later.

The Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Board of Directors met on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, in the meeting room at the Buncombe County Permit Office located at 30 Valley Street, Asheville, N.C.

The attendance of the Board members was as follows:

Members Present:	**Members Absent:**
Joel Storrow	*Ned Guttman*
Karl Koon	*Garry Whisnant*
Caitlin Crossett	

Staff Present: *Ashley Featherstone, Director; James Raiford, Permitting Program Manager; Mike Matthews, Air Quality Specialist II; Hannah Rhodes, Air Quality Coordinator*

Others Present: *Amy Broughton, County Attorney; Angelica Tyler, CAPE*

Joel Storrow called the meeting of the Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Board of Directors to order on June 17, 2025, at 4:00 pm.

The order of business was as follows:

1. **Public Comment Protocol Announcement**
   A. Joel Storrow read the public comment protocol.

2. **Adjustment and Approval of Agenda**
   A. Karl Koon made the motion to approve the agenda.
   B. Caitlin Crossett seconded the motion.
   C. All present – yes
   D. The motion passed 3-0

3. **Unfinished Business**
   A. Reduce to Rebuild Proposal-Permit Fee Modification
      i. Ashley Featherstone summarized the proposal. The county commissioners wanted to initiate this permit fee modification to alleviate some of the financial burden for residents rebuilding after Hurricane Helene. The proposal reduces permit fees for residential properties by 50%. We issued the public notice on May 14th, 2025 and it closed on June 13th, 2025. We did not receive any comments from the public. Mike Matthews and James Raiford have been working with the IT department to help make this permit fee reduction feasible, should the board vote to approve it.
      ii. Karl Koon asked if there would be any fees that were previously collected on the old rate that would need to be refunded to align with the new rate.
         1) Ashley Featherstone explained that, should this permit fee reduction be passed, it would go into effect after it was voted on by this board. Therefore, the change date would begin

that same day, June 17th, 2025, and would be effective through the end of the calendar year. Anyone who received a permit from January 1st, 2025 thorough the time of the vote on June 17th would not get a refund.

2) Ashley Featherstone explained that, during the open comment period, Air Quality staff did try to communicate with permit applicants with Helene-related damage that, if they waited, there was a potential for them to receive a lower permit price.
    a) Mike Matthews said that there had maybe been two applicants that would have fallen into this category, and one of them specifically did not want to wait for the potentially reduced fee.
3) Mike Matthews said that many residential permits for Helene-related damage have already been issued.

iii. Karl Koon made the motion to open the public hearing.
1) Caitlin Crossett seconded the motion.
2) All present – yes
3) The motion passed 3-0

iv. It was found that there was no public comment.

v. Joel Storrow asked for a motion to close the public comment
1) Karl Koon made the motion to close the public comment.
2) Caitlin Crossett seconded the motion.
3) All present – yes
4) The motion passed 3-0

B. Karl Koon made the motion to approve the "Reduce to Rebuild" permit fee reduction.
i. Caitlin Crossett seconded the motion.
ii. All present – yes
iii. The motion passed 3-0

4. Other Business

A. Calendar
i. Next meeting July 24, 2025

B. Announcements

5. Public Comment

A. None

6. Adjournment

A. Karl Koon made the motion to adjourn the meeting.
B. Caitlin Crossett seconded the motion.
C. All present – yes
D. The motion passed 3-0
E. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10pm

Asheville-Buncombe
Air Quality Agency

Hurricane Helene Air Quality Response Recovery

June 4, 2025

EPA Region 4 Grants and Planning Meeting

Topics

- Brief Intro-Local Agency
- Helene: NC DAQ and AB Air Quality Initial Response and Recovery
- Storm Debris: Open Burning and Air Curtain Incinerators
- Non-Regulatory Temporary Monitors and Sensors-Air Awareness
- Demolition Permits and Asbestos Requirements
- Challenges Going Forward

Asheville-Buncombe
Air Quality Agency

History

- One of Three Local Programs in North Carolina
- City of Asheville Smoke Abatement Program – 1947-1967
- Multi-County Agency
  - 1967-1970 Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Transylvania
  - 1970-2000 Buncombe and Haywood
  - 2000-Buncombe County and City of Asheville



Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

AB Air Quality Permitting & Inspection Program

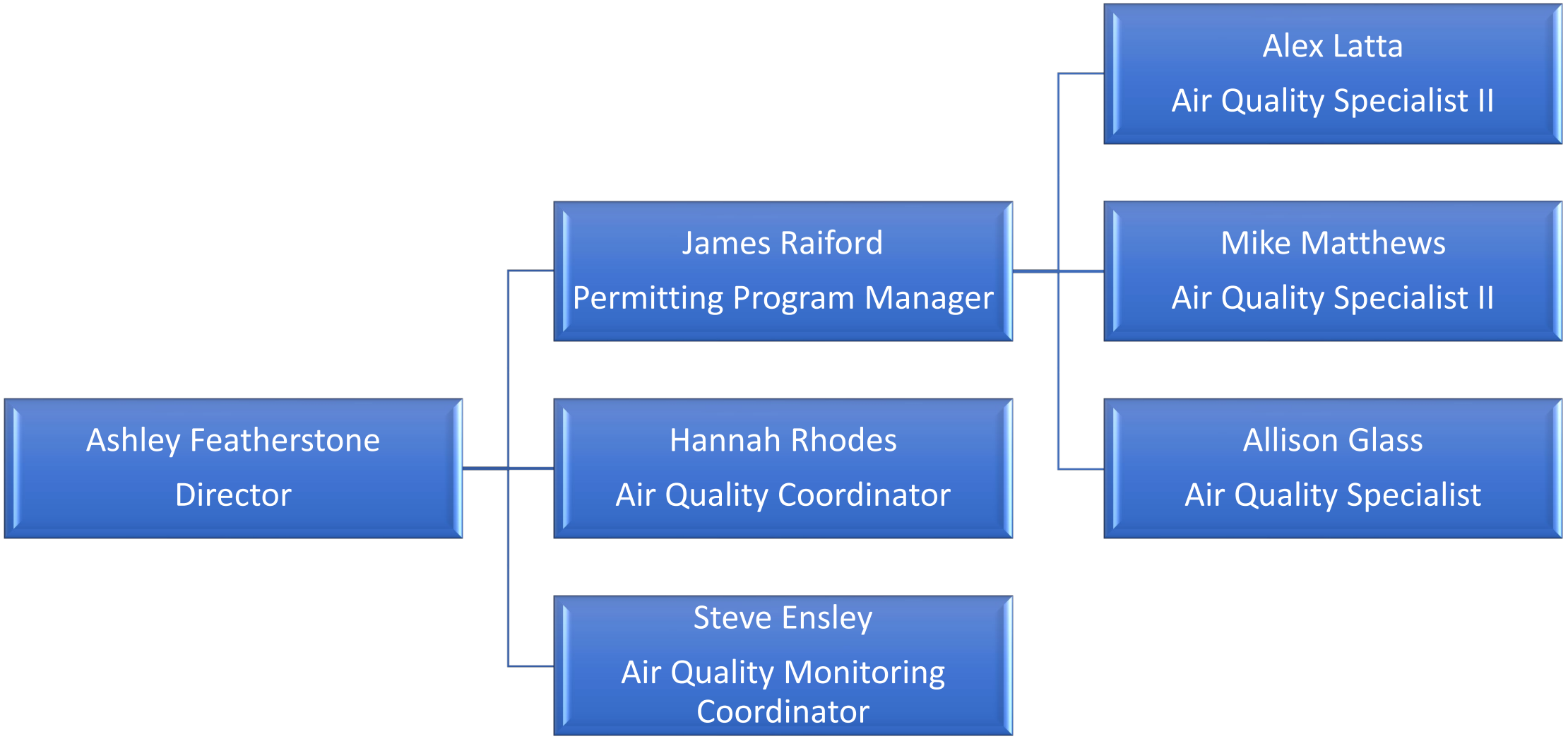
- 7 Title V Facilities
- 10 Synthetic Minor Facilities
- 56 Small Facilities
- 150 Stage I Vapor Recovery Facilities
- 2 112r facilities, 7 dry cleaners

- Demolition and Asbestos Removal Permits – 200+ per year
- City of Asheville and Buncombe County Permit Reviews – 300 per year

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

Organizational Chart



Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

Hurricane Helene





Asheville-Buncombe
Air Quality Agency

Hurricane Helene







Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

Hurricane Helene





Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

Hurricane Helene Statistics

- 1,000 year flood event in several counties
- $59.6 Billion in damages
- Power and communications out for weeks in some areas
- Asheville/Buncombe no potable water for 2 months
- 107 confirmed fatalities in NC-43 in Buncombe County
- 25 counties declared federal disaster areas affecting 4.6 million-more that 40% of the state's population
- Estimated 10 million cubic yards of debris that will need to be collected and disposed in Buncombe County – update April 2025-950,000 cubic yards.

Helene-AB Air Quality Response

- Initial Response: staff check ins, restarting monitoring network
- EOC, wellness checks, damage assessments, community care stations/distribution warehouses
- Worked with DAQ and EPA to deploy additional non-regulatory PM2.5 monitors and sensors
- Air Curtain Incinerators/Open Burning of Storm Debris
- Guidance Documents on website
- Demolition and Asbestos Removal Permits
- Neighborhood and Built Environment Workgroup





Asheville-Buncombe
Air Quality Agency

Title V Permitting for Air Curtain Incinerators

- EPA Rulemaking required Title V Permits for OSWI and CISWI ACI Units
- North Carolina DAQ and AB Air Quality instituted General Title V Permitting Procedures for both OSWI and CISWI ACI units
- Our Agency has only issued one General Title V Permit which is no longer active, North Carolina DAQ has several General Title V Permits
- EPA removed the requirement for OSWI units to obtain a Title V Permit on April 17, 2024. This is only for units that have a daily throughput less than 35 tons per day (state and local rules have not been updated to reflect this change)

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

Helene Regulatory Relief for ACIs

- On October 10, 2024, the General Assembly of North Carolina passed House Bill 149, also known as the Disaster Recovery Act of 2024, in response to Hurricane Helene.
- The Act stated that owners and operators of permanent and temporary OSWI units shall not be required to obtain a General Title V Operating Permit (to reflect the EPA's updated rule).
- On November 15, 2024, the North Carolina Division of Air Quality requested regulatory relief from the EPA regarding the use of ACIs in North Carolina to handle disaster debris, including waiver of the Title V permitting requirement for CISWI ACIs.
- OSWI Rule already had provisions for burning disaster debris, allows eight weeks of operation with an additional eight-week extension before having to comply with the rule

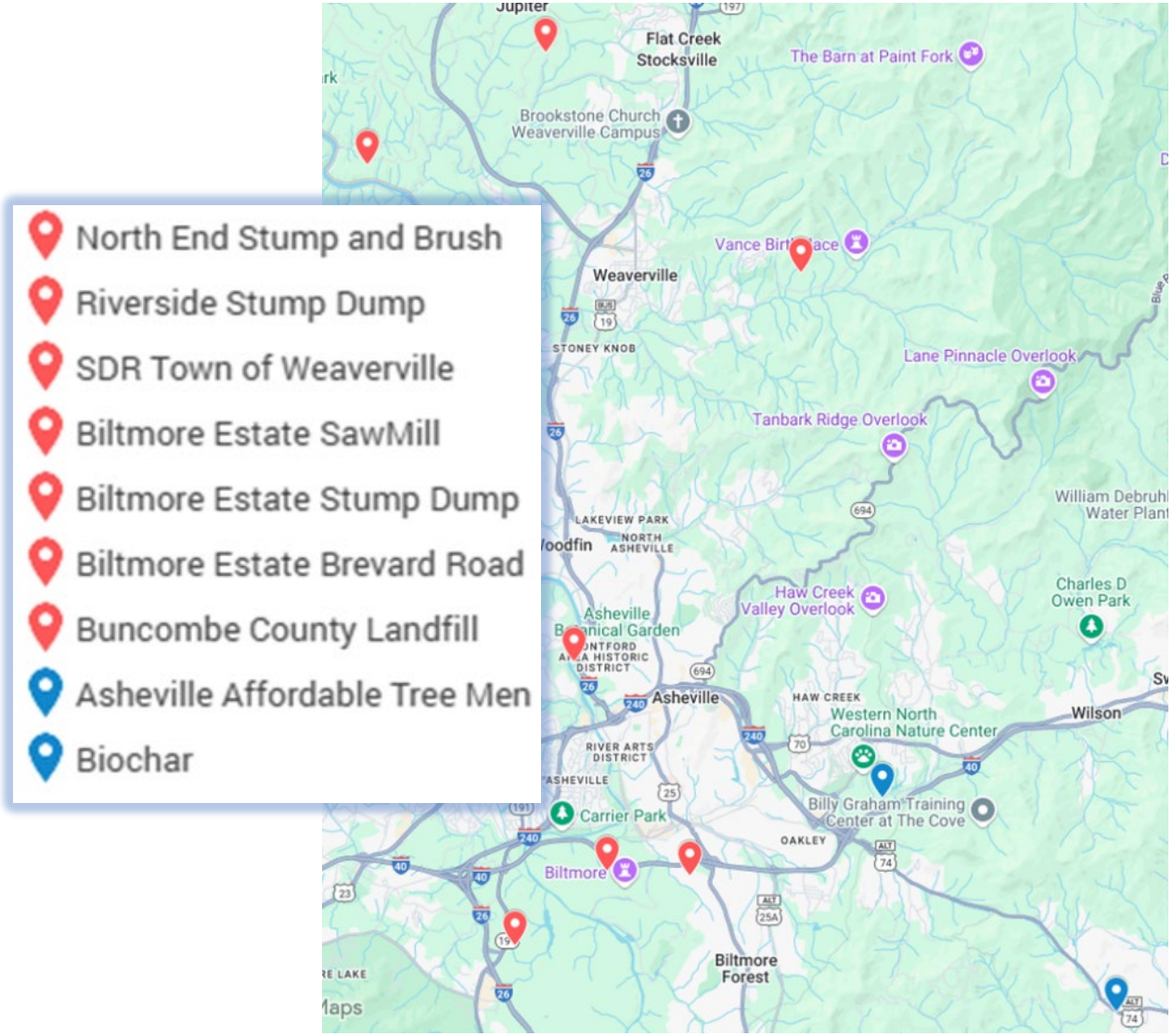
Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

EPA No Action Assurance Letter

- Issued on November 21, 2024. Extension March-2025
- Allows ACIs with capacity greater than 35 tons per day to operate in North Carolina without first obtaining a Title V Permit through September 1, 2025 provided that:
  - The owner/operator notifies the EPA Region 4 (see below for notification contact) prior to initiation of the use of a new ACI subject to the Title V permitting under CISWI
  - Owners/operators comply with all other applicable CISWI requirements, including opacity limits, monitoring, testing, and recordkeeping and reporting.
  - Owners/operators comply with all conditions imposed by State or local authorities on these emergency operations.

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

ACIs Proposed/Operating in Buncombe County



- Six ACIs in Buncombe County to be operated at eight sites (Biochar is a test site)
- Only one ACI is an OSWI unit
- Three units have asked to keep the ACIs permanently and will require permits once hurricane debris is removed

Asheville-Buncombe
Air Quality Agency


CAT
M30-6
678-855 1723
BurnDebris.com




AirBurners





ACIs Rated at Less than 35 tons per day – Title V Permit Not Required



24 Tons Per Day



251 Tons Per Day

Out of the ashes: Contraption could turn Helene debris into useful product

By Andrew Marshall andrew@themountaineer.com May 21, 2025 0



MORE THAN A BYPRODUCT — The Tigercat 6040 Carbonizer could turn forest debris into valuable biochar, which in turn could help revitalize agricultural fields damaged by Helene.

Andrew Marshall

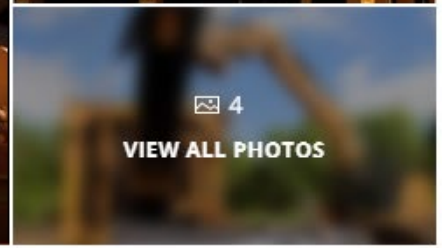
New machine transforms wood debris into biochar, aiding local farmers in Helene recovery

by Ed DiOrio | Tue, May 6th 2025 at 6:07 PM
Updated Tue, May 6th 2025 at 7:00 PM





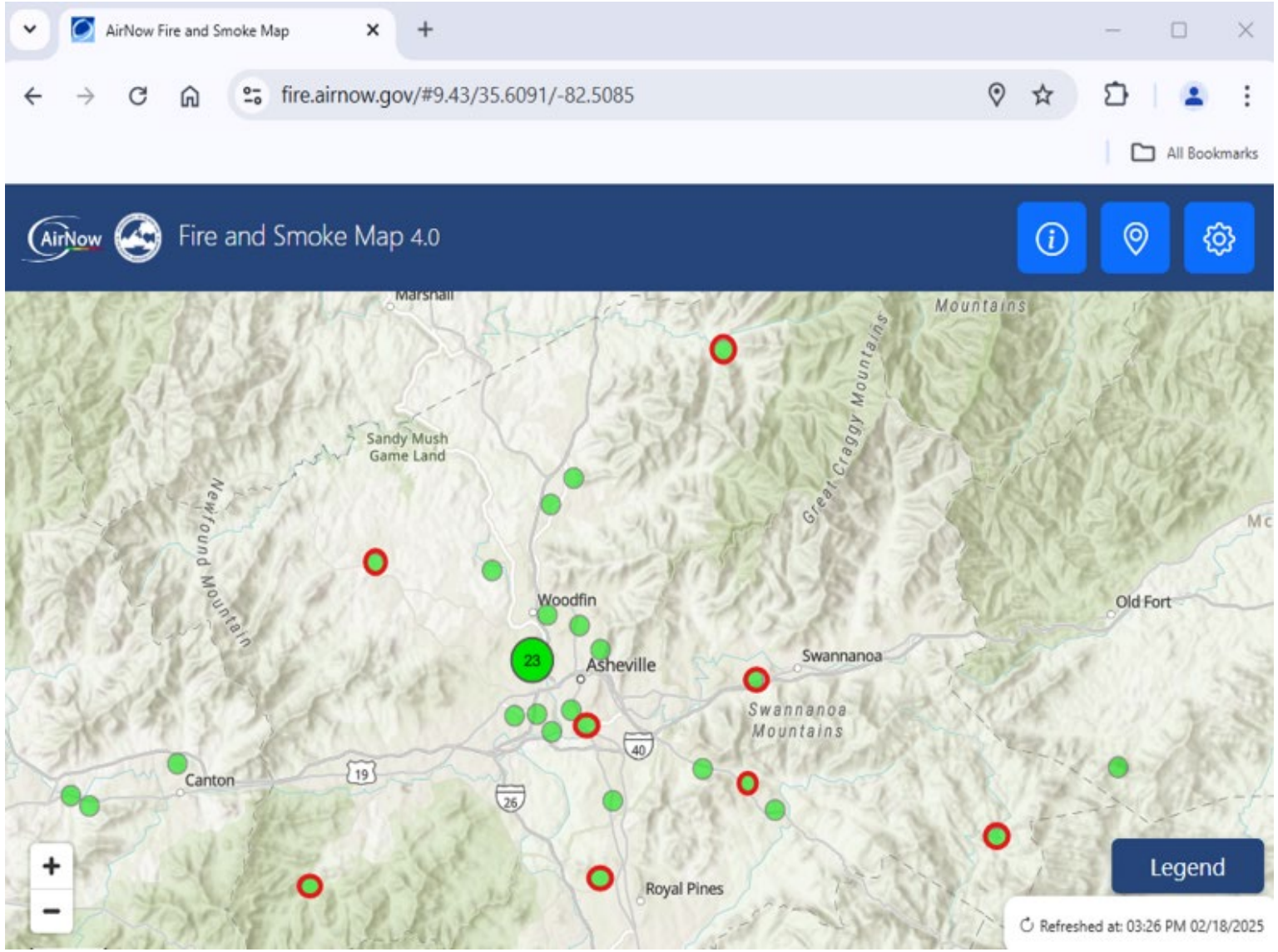




MAY 6, 2025 - This new machine takes debris and burns it into biochar, aiding with recovery after Hurricane Helene. (Photo credit: WLOS Staff)

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

Check EPA Fire and Smoke Map (fire.airnow.gov) for real-time air quality conditions.



Low-cost sensors installed after Helene by AB Air Quality highlighted in RED

Sensors and 2 additional monitors Provided by NCDAQ and EPA

EBAMs



Fairview Elementary



ARO

Purple Airs cont.

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency



Skyland Library



Broad River FD

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

Demolition Permits and Asbestos Requirements

- Demolition/Asbestos Permits-Residential and Commercial
  - 364 applications since Helene (up from 296 over previous year)
  - Currently processing 140 demolition permits with FEMA/USACE/County
- Asbestos NESHAP (40 CFR Part 61 Subpart M)
  - Coordinating with USACE, FEMA, County to ensure requirements are met
- Recommend survey on all structures prior to demolition/renovation



Resources for Recovery

- Neighborhood and Built Environment Group
  - Air Awareness-Air Now Fire and Smoke Map
  - Other Agency Services: Open Burning/Dust/Odor
  - How to make a DIY Air Cleaner
  - Demolitions and Renovations-Asbestos, lead, mold
  - Burn Wise Program



It's Air Quality Awareness Week!
Air quality matters every day, and after Tropical Storm Helene, our region has seen more smoke from burning storm debris and wildfires. We're asking residents to help protect the air we breathe. The Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency and local fire chiefs strongly encourage you to avoid burning storm debris due to the high fire risk and air quality impacts.

✅ Better alternatives include:
- Composting
- Mulching or grinding
- Recycling
- Taking debris to the landfill (fees apply)

You may also see air curtain incinerators around. They look like debris burning in a big metal box or dumpster — but they emit less smoke and pollution than open burning!
Learn more at buncombecounty.org/air
#AirQualityAwareness #BuncombeCounty #AfterTheStorm #CleanAir



Asheville-Buncombe
Air Quality Agency

Challenges Moving Forward

- Ensuring that ACI operators are following CISWI rules for opacity, testing, etc.
- Will EPA eliminate Title V Requirements for CISWI ACIs?
- Monitoring – One ACI is Located 1000 feet from our PM 2.5 Monitor
- Permitting – ACIs will likely become a permanent fixture
- Storm Debris-Long Term Situation-Wildfires
- Demolition Permits and Reduce to Rebuild (proposal to decrease fees)
- Workload. Open Burning Complaints and Demolition Permits->50% increase
- Asphalt Plant Odor Complaints
- Increased Outreach for Recovery Resources

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency

Questions?

Ashley Featherstone or James Raiford
www.abairquality.org
828-250-6777
Ashley.featherstone@buncombenc.gov
james.Raiford@buncombenc.gov

Asheville-Buncombe
Air Quality Agency

Testimony of the Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies
Submitted to the
U.S. Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Regarding
Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
State and Local Air Quality Management Grants

June 13, 2025

The Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies (AAPCA)[1] thanks this Subcommittee for the opportunity to provide input on Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 appropriations for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). AAPCA's state and local air agency members are co-regulators with U.S. EPA, responsible for implementing federal Clean Air Act (CAA) rules in their jurisdictions.[2] As FY 2026 appropriations are developed, AAPCA asks that funding directed to air agencies, including State and Local Air Quality Management Grants under CAA Sections 103 and 105, adequately account for core CAA activities and previously unfunded mandates.

States carry out more than 90 percent of the nation's federal environmental programs, and all fifty states serve as primary implementers and enforcers of most CAA standards.[3] By their longstanding, on-the-ground expertise, state and local agencies show that cleaner air and a healthy economy can be simultaneously achieved. Between 1970 and 2023 in the United States, aggregate emissions of criteria air pollutants decreased 78 percent, while gross domestic product increased 321 percent and energy consumption rose 42 percent.[4] From 1970 to 2019, total private sector jobs increased by 223 percent.[5] AAPCA members deeply understand that melding national environmental regulations with local priorities, economic strategies, and stakeholder needs requires significant resources.

Congress provided a total of $4.38 billion for State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) in the *Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025* (H.R. 1968), which was signed into law on March 15, 2025.[6] Congress has consistently appropriated funding for State and Local Air Quality Management categorical grants under the STAG program, which provide critical support to air agencies charged with protecting air quality and public health.

Over the last decade, funding levels enacted for State and Local Air Quality Management Grants have been stable. With virtually no change in funding levels enacted from FY 2015 through FY 2020, incremental increases began in FY 2021 for three years but were not sustained. A total of $235.9 million for State and Local Air Quality Management Grants was appropriated by Congress for FY 2024 and FY

[1] AAPCA is a national, non-profit, consensus-driven organization focused on assisting state and local air quality agencies and personnel with implementation and technical issues associated with the federal Clean Air Act. Created in 2012, AAPCA represents 53 state and local air pollution control agencies, and senior officials from 21 state environmental agencies currently sit on the AAPCA Board of Directors. AAPCA is housed in Lexington, Kentucky as an affiliate of The Council of State Governments. More about AAPCA is at: www.cleanairact.org.
[2] AAPCA, *State Air Trends & Successes: The StATS Report*, May 2025.
[3] The Environmental Council of the States (ECOS), "National Environmental Protection: The Role of States," March 24, 2025
[4] U.S. EPA, *Our Nation's Air: Trends Trough 2023*, August 2024
[5] U.S. EPA, "The Clean Air Act and the Economy," last updated June 9, 2025
[6] H.R. 1968 – *Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025* (P.L. 119-4).

2025, only about three percent higher than enacted levels ten years ago. Table 1 summarizes the enacted State and Local Air Quality Management Grants for FY 2015 – FY 2025.

Table 1. FY 2015 – FY 2025 Enacted State and Local Air Quality Management Grants

Fiscal Year	State and Local Air Quality Management Grants (enacted)
FY 2025	$235.922 million
FY 2024	$235.922 million
FY 2023	$249.038 million
FY 2022	$231.391 million
FY 2021	$229.500 million
FY 2020	$228.219 million
FY 2019	$228.219 million
FY 2018	$228.219 million
FY 2017	$228.219 million
FY 2016	$228.219 million
FY 2015	$228.219 million

State and local air agencies utilize funding from these grants judiciously by strategically deploying resources, creating efficient programing and best practices, and relying on leadership and staff that are dedicated public servants. Through technically complex and resource intensive activities, agencies:

- Review, issue, and enforce air quality permits for a range of sources, from small businesses to industrial and commercial facilities, including new sources like data centers;
- Develop and update state implementation plans (SIPs) to attain/maintain National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and improve visibility under the Regional Haze Program;
- Serve as the nation's primary air quality monitoring entities, develop and update emissions inventories, and perform photochemical and air dispersion modeling;
- Implement federal rules and standards for hazardous air pollutants, including case-by-case maximum achievable control technology (MACT) determinations;
- Ensure facility compliance through inspection and enforcement oversight;
- Hire, train, and retain qualified and dedicated staff; and,
- Lead public outreach and information campaigns, including forecasting air quality, distributing air quality alerts, responding to complaints, and working with stakeholders to protect public health.

State and local air agencies have led these efforts and continued to improve the nation's air quality[7] while administering increasingly complicated and demanding operations that have had to accommodate growing inflation in expenses related to personnel, travel, and equipment. Providing maximum flexibility in air agency grants enables programs to determine the best use for addressing air pollution control needs in their jurisdiction.

[7] U.S. EPA, Air Quality – National Summary, last updated May 6, 2025.

The White House recommendations for discretionary funding for FY 2026, known as the President's Budget,[8] include cuts to categorical grant programs of $1.006 billion, claiming:

> *EPA's Categorical Grant programs have become a crutch for States at the expense of taxpayers—many of whom receive no benefit from these grants… These reductions promote federalism by allowing States to achieve primary enforcement authority for these programs, while also encouraging States to innovate and find more efficient ways to meet their responsibilities under delegated authority.*

Per the President's Budget, U.S. EPA's Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Budget in Brief requests $4.16 billion for U.S. EPA, a 54 percent decrease from the FY 2025 enacted level. A total of $745 million is requested for STAG, an 83 percent decrease from the FY 2025 enacted level. State and Local Air Quality Management categorical grants are proposed for elimination, among other clean air programs, "to refocus Agency resources on core statutory work."[9]

Adequate funding for State and Local Air Quality Management Grants that account for core CAA activities, U.S. EPA's current priorities, and previously unfunded mandates is vital for state and local air agency budgets as well as ensuring the cooperative federalism balance needed for successful environmental outcomes. Eliminating or dramatically reducing this funding would devastate economic development (i.e. reduced capacity of air permitting staff and programs), critical infrastructure (i.e. ambient air monitoring networks), and environmental protections across AACPA's membership. Such cuts could incapacitate state and local air programs to meet basic air quality control activities while creating significant uncertainty for state and local legislatures and businesses across the country.

In the southeastern United States, State and Local Air Quality Management Grants fund between 11.5 and 50 percent of state and local air agencies' total budgets. In one AAPCA state with several local air agencies, State and Local Air Quality Management Grants account for 21.5 to 32.5 percent of those local agencies' total budgets. A local air agency in a growing metropolitan area in the Intermountain West could lose as many as 13 full-time equivalent positions dedicated to air programs such as ambient monitoring and compliance, if the proposed cuts were enacted. For another local air agency in the Cumberland Plateau, State and Local Air Quality Management Grants fund more than 35 percent of the agency's total budget, the elimination of which would require the agency to terminate delegation of its air programs and return program implementation to the state. A loss of state and local regulatory staff and program capacity would have immediate consequences such as creating a permitting backlog, including for permits to construct and major source operating permits. For many state and local air agencies already facing resource constraints, all areas of service would be reduced.

If Congress were to adopt the White House recommendation for discretionary spending, states may be required to terminate primacy, delegation, or authorization agreements and return full program implementation to U.S. EPA.[10] A reduction or elimination of the federal cost share will create implementation issues resulting in legal liabilities that may contribute to a state's decision to return a program to U.S. EPA for implementation within a state. This would overwhelm U.S. EPA and have detrimental impacts to economic development throughout the United States. Specifically, robust

[8] White House Office of Management and Budget, Fiscal Year 2026 Discretionary Budget Request, May 2, 2025.
[9] FY 2026 U.S. EPA Budget in Brief, May 2025.
[10] The Environmental Council of the States (ECOS), "ECOS Letter to U.S. EPA on the FY26 President's Budget Preliminary Request and Discretionary Funding Cuts to Categorical Grants," May 3, 2025

economic development demands timely permitting, which will be lost if permitting programs are returned to U.S. EPA.

Additional considerations that may affect state and local resources include how U.S. EPA alters the regional and state allocation formula for State and Local Air Quality Management Grants, if not eliminated. Historically, appropriations since the beginning of the fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) monitoring program have maintained funding authority under CAA Section 103. AAPCA reaffirms the importance of sustaining the granting authority for $PM_{2.5}$ monitoring under CAA Section 103, which does not require a 40-percent funding match and allows state and local agencies to best allocate resources for air quality planning and programs while continuing $PM_{2.5}$ monitoring. Distributing funds for $PM_{2.5}$ monitoring under CAA Section 105 would adversely impact state and local air agency budgets.

In March, U.S. EPA Administrator Zeldin announced a slate of 31 deregulatory actions,[11] including many air program actions expected on an expedited timeline. State and local air agency expertise and engagement is critical for the development of successful regulatory/deregulatory programs. In addition to adopting and implementing updated federal regulations, state and local air agencies will be responsible for making associated permitting changes and conducting education and outreach with stakeholders in their jurisdictions. Given the Administration's emphasis on domestic manufacturing and needed increases in electrical generation, the most efficient mechanism to meet the CAA requirements for new manufacturing and energy projects is by working with state and local air agencies. State and local agencies are best equipped to provide timely, close coordination with regulated industry to meet permitting project needs. AAPCA stresses that merging national environmental requirements with state and local economic priorities and strategies for growth will require continued investment from Congress to adequately account for core CAA activities, U.S. EPA's current priorities, and previously unfunded mandates.

Thank you for your attention to this testimony. AAPCA's state and local air agency members appreciate the recognition of your Committee in recent funding legislation and look forward to working with you as Congress develops its priorities for FY 2026 appropriations for U.S. EPA. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Morgan Dickie, Executive Director, at mdickie@csg.org or (859) 244-8042.

Sincerely,



Morgan Dickie
Executive Director, AAPCA

[11] U.S. EPA, "EPA Launches Biggest Deregulatory Action in U.S. History," March 12, 2025.

Potential Impacts of Federal Funding Cuts to NCDEQ

Based on the President's FY2026 Budget Request

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) serves all 11 million residents of our state to protect our air, land, water, and health. North Carolina's abundant natural resources and commitment to innovation have helped it rank as a top three state for business for five years running, and federal funding is key to the service and support NCDEQ provides in making our state a great place to live, work, and do business.

Implementation of the President's FY2026 Budget Request would **zero out federal support** for many of NCDEQ's core functions while **drastically cutting** additional programs. Impacts could include:

- **Slower review time** for permits
- **Reduced capacity** for technical assistance & other unfunded regulatory services
- **Delayed responses** to environmental incidents and customer service inquiries
- **Increased uncertainty** for businesses
- **Reduced funding** for local infrastructure or redevelopment projects
- **Jeopardized status** of federally delegated programs

Select FY26 Proposed Changes to Nationwide Environmental Programs (in millions of $)

Fund	Fund Purpose	FY25 Enacted Budget	FY26 President's Budget	% Decrease
Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF)	*Fund wastewater infrastructure projects for public wastewater systems*	$1,638,861	$155,000	**91%**
Drinking Water SRF	*Fund drinking water infrastructure projects for public water systems*	$1,126,101	$150,000	**87%**
Brownfields Program	*Return contaminated sites to productive economic use*	$46,250	$0	**100%**
Resource Recovery & Hazardous Waste	*Safeguard public against exposure to hazardous waste*	$101,362	$0	**100%**
Clean Water Act Programs	*Protect water quality through addressing pollution and wastewater discharges*	$399,642	$0	**100%**
Public Water System Supervision	*Ensure safety of drinking water resources and protect public health*	$115,833	$0	**100%**
Clean Air Act Programs	*Preserve air quality through monitoring and management program*	$235,602	$0	**100%**

NCDEQ relies on federal funding for up to **one-half of its operating expenses**, which includes staffing, environmental monitoring, emergency response, technical and compliance assistance, laboratory operations, and other agency work. While impacts to some programs remain unclear, categorical grants such as those listed above account for over **$31 million** in annual funding that the Department depends on to efficiently and effectively serve the needs of the state.

Scan or click for full funding table.

In FY24, key actions supported by these funds included:

Water Infrastructure

Over $188 million awarded to wastewater & drinking water projects across 16 counties

Brownfields

~2,000 acres of contaminated land being revitalized to safe and productive reuse

Site Remediation

38 NPL sites overseen & >700 UST incidents closed yearly rely on at-risk federal funds

Clean Water

>13,000 NPDES permits issued or renewed to protect watersheds statewide

Drinking Water

~1,300 permits processed for public drinking water supply supporting >9 million North Carolinians

Clean Air

~10 years in a row attaining all federal public health air quality standards

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Facility Inspection Report

Facility Inspection Information					
Facility Name:	Aprotech Powertrain, LLC				
Date of Inspection:	March 10, 2025		**Last Inspected:**	September 21, 2023	
Mailing Address:	31 Adams Hill Road, Asheville, NC 28806	**Physical Location:**	31 Adams Hill Road, Asheville, NC 28806		
Contact Name:	Kenneth West & Jim Jones		**Phone Number:**	828-702-3416	
Contact Email:	kwest@aprotechgroup.com				
Permit #:	11-867-17	**Issued:**	July 10, 2017	**Expires:**	July 30, 2025
Inspector(s):	Steve Ensley				
Results:	Appears in compliance		**Inspection Time:**	0900	

Safety Equipment / Special Instructions

Safety glasses and steel-toed shoes are required while in the manufacturing area.

On March 10, 2025, I traveled to Aprotech Powertrain, LLC and met with Kenneth West to perform an unannounced compliance inspection. Aprotech Powertrain, LLC specializes in manufacturing vibration dampeners for commercial vehicles and agricultural equipment. Mr. West explained that there have been no changes to equipment or production since the last compliance inspection. During the inspection the following sources were observed:

Permitted Equipment

EMISSION SOURCE ID	EMISSION SOURCE DESCRIPTION	OBSERVATION
ES-103	One (1) vibration damper adhesive spray operation controlled by one (1) waterwash system (CD-103).	Observed in operation
ES-104	One (1) vibration damper primer spray operation controlled by one (1) waterwash system (CD-104).	Observed in operation
ES-105	One (1) vibration damper paint spray operation controlled by one (1) waterwash system (CD-105)	Observed in operation
ES-106	Five (5) vibration damper dip tanks.	4 were in the main line using toluene as lubricant. 1 was in a separate area and used Murphy's Oil Soap instead.

Exempt Sources:

EXEMPT EQUIPMENT	OBSERVATION
One (1) 0.8 million BTU per hour natural gas-fired baking oven	Observed in operation
One (1) 2.3 million BTU per hour natural gas-fired parts washer	Observed not in operation
Various machining operations	Observed not in operation
Various natural-gas fired boilers	Observed in operation

Permit Conditions:

The following permit conditions were reviewed during this inspection:

- A.14 – This condition requires the facility retain a copy of the permit on the premises. ***The facility had a copy of their current operating permit on-site.***
- B.2 – This condition states the facility shall be operated to prevent odorous emissions from being emitted beyond the boundary of the facility. ***No odors were observed beyond the boundary of the facility.***
- B.3 – This condition establishes the facility's particulate matter emission limit from ES-103, ES-104, and ES-105. This regulation limits PM emissions from ES-103, ES-104, and ES-105 to 16.51 pounds per hour each. Per updated emission calculations made by AB Air Quality, ES-103, ES-104, and ES-105 emit 0.009, 0.006, and 0.007 pounds of PM per hour, respectively. Provided the facility maintains the overspray collection systems on the paint spray booths, it will be assumed these operations are in compliance with this regulation. ***The facility is aware of the particulate matter emission limit and is using waterwash systems on ES-103, ES-104, and ES-105 to control and minimize emissions from the associated spray operations.***
- B.4 – This condition limits visible emissions from all sources to no more than 20 percent opacity when averaged over a six-minute period. ***Emission release points were observed with no visible emissions during the inspection.***

- B.5 – The facility has triggered an air toxics review under AB Air Quality Code 17.0700 and 4.1100. In order to comply with the requirements of this condition, the facility is required to monitor and maintain records of annual emissions of trichloroethylene calculated monthly. ***According to Kenneth West, they have not used trichloroethylene in years and removed all processes that utilize tricholorethylene.***
- B.6 – This condition requires that the facility submit annual emission reports for VOCs and HAPs. ***The facility is submitting annual reports as required. The most recent annual report was received on February 7, 2025 and contained all the required information.***

Compliance History:

The facility does not have any history of recorded violations in the last ten (10) years.

Conclusion:

Based on the above information, Aprotech Powertrain, LLC appears to be in compliance with all applicable regulations of the AB Air Quality Code. It is recommended that this permit be renewed.

Signature: _____ **Date:** 3/10/25

Reviewer Signature: _____ **Date:** 3/11/25

Director Signature: _____ **Date:** 5/16/2025

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Facility Inspection Report

Facility Inspection Information					
Facility Name:	Buncombe County Detention Center				
Date of Inspection:	April 30, 2025		**Last Inspected:**	May 6, 2024	
Mailing Address:	11 Valley St. Asheville, NC 28801		**Physical Location:**	20 Davidson Drive, Asheville, NC 28801	
Contact Name:	Jordan Angel		**Phone Number:**	828-774-6433 (c)	
Contact Email:	jordan.angel@buncombenc.gov				
Permit #:	11-893-17	**Issued:**	July 10, 2017	**Expires:**	July 31, 2025
Inspector(s):	Allison Glass				
Results:	Appears in compliance		**Inspection Time:**	9:00AM – 10:30AM	

Introduction

On the above date, a comprehensive inspection was conducted at the Buncombe County Detention Center along with other county buildings. The purpose of this inspection was to determine compliance under the Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Air Quality Code (ABAQA Code). The Buncombe County Detention Center is a detention facility for inmates. I scheduled this inspection ahead of time with Jordan Angel. Andrew Sawyer was the previous contact and can still be contacted if Mr. Angel is unavailable. The following is a summary of the inspection results:

Safety Equipment / Special Instructions

Steel-toed shoes and hearing protection are recommended during the inspection.

Permitted Equipment

Equipment ID	Description	Observed?	Hour Reading
ES-1	One (1) 760 kilowatt, diesel-fired emergency-use generator (Main Detention Center).	Observed – not operating	383.9 hours
ES-2	One (1) 500 kilowatt, diesel-fired emergency-use generator (Jail Addition).	Observed – not operating	520 hours
ES-3	One (1) 125 kilowatt, diesel-fired emergency-use generator (County Court House).	Observed – not operating	326.2 hours

ES-4	One (1) 450 kilowatt, diesel-fired emergency-use generator (Life Safety Tower).	Observed – not operating	920 hours
ES-5	One (1) 400 kilowatt, diesel-fired emergency-use generator (Judicial Complex).	Observed – not operating	583 hours
ES-6	One (1) 175 kilowatt, diesel-fired emergency-use generator (35 Woodfin).	Observed – not operating	288 hours

The generators are scheduled to run weekly on Tuesdays starting around 0930 hours and lasting for about one (1) hour. Mr. Angel was unable to unlock ES-6 to get the hour reading but said that I will be able to see the hours on the last maintenance inspection that was performed.

Exempt Sources:

Main Detention Center

Equipment ID	Description	Observed?	Hour Reading
1	One (1) 93 horsepower, diesel-fired emergency-use fire pump (Detroit Diesel Model DDPF-03 DT 5068F).	Observed – not operating	54 hours
2	Two (2) 6.30 million BTU per hour, natural gas-fired boilers (Mohawk Model AT-4-5-751).	Observed – one operating	N/A
3	Two (2) 0.18 million BTU per hour, natural gas-fired clothes dryers (Cissell Model L44CD426)	No longer there - replaced	N/A
4	One (1) 0.25 million BTU per hour, natural gas-fired clothes dryer (Cissell Model HD1106)	No longer there - replaced	N/A

The two 0.18 million BTU per hour dryers and the 0.25 million BTU per hour dryer have been replaced by 4 Dexter T-50X2 dryers, there are 2 dryers per unit totaling 8 dryers. Specifications are as follows: 8 gas input (per dryer – 60 hz) 0.108 million BTU per hour, 114MJ/hr (31.7 kW).

Jail Addition

Equipment ID	Description	Observed?
5	Two (2) 1.00 million BTU per hour, natural gas-fired water heaters (Power Fin by Lochinvan Model PFN1001PM)	Observed – not operating
6	Two (2) 1.00 million BTU per hour, natural gas-fired boilers (Power Fin by Lochinvan Model PFN1001)	Observed – not operating

Allport Building

Equipment ID	Description	Observed?
7	Two (2) 0.399 million BTU per hour, natural gas-fired boilers (Aerco Esteem 399).	Observed - operating
8	One (1) 50 kilowatt, diesel-fired emergency-use generator (Generac).	No longer there
9	One (1) 100-gallon, sub-base diesel fuel storage tank.	No longer there

Mr. Angel stated that the 50-kilowatt generator and the 100-gallon storage tank have not been there in a while.

County Court House

Equipment ID	Description	Observed?
10	Two (2) 4.032 million BTU per hour, natural gas-fired boilers (Weil-McLain)	Observed – not operating
11	One (1) 500-gallon aboveground diesel fuel storage tank	Observed

Life Safety Tower

Equipment ID	Description	Observed?
12	One (1) 5,000-gallon aboveground diesel fuel storage tank	Not observed – located under ES-5

Judicial Complex

Equipment ID	Description	Observed?
13	One (1) 1,550-gallon, sub-base diesel fuel storage tank	Observed

200 College Street (BC Administration)

Equipment ID	Description	Observed?
14	Two (2) 1.350 million BTU per hour, natural gas-fired boilers (RBI Dominator)	Not Observed

35 Woodfin Street (William H. Stanley Center)

Equipment ID	Description	Observed?
15	Two (2) 2.50 million BTU per hour, natural gas-fired boilers (Harsco Industrial Patterson-Kelley P-K Thermific Model N2500-MFD)	Observed – not operating
16	One (1) 1650-gallon, sub-base diesel fuel storage tank	Not Observed – located under ES-6

Interchange Building

Equipment ID	Description	Observed?	Hour Reading
17	One (1) 125 kilowatt, natural gas-fired emergency-use generator (Olympian Model No. G125G1).	Observed	5,144 hours

The generator was locked, and Mr. Angel did not have a key with him. He said he will send me the hour reading via email.

Permit Conditions:

The following does not represent all permitted conditions, only the permit conditions that are directly relevant to the inspection. For all the conditions, please review permit.

- **A.7 – This condition requires that the permittee maintain and operate the facility at all times so that the overall reduction in air pollutants, in accordance with applicable standards, is achieved.** *The facility has developed a maintenance schedule for equipment and is maintaining records of all maintenance. The facility has established standard operating procedures for equipment and is training equipment operators on the procedures.*
- **A.8 – This condition requires that the facility notify the Agency in the event of a malfunction.** *The facility has not experienced any malfunctions during the reporting period.*
- **A.11 – This condition requires that the facility pay their annual permit fee on a timely basis.** *The facility is up to date on fee payments. The facility last submitted their fee payment on August 27, 2024, and will get invoiced in July of this year with their permit renewal.*
- **A.12 – The facility is required to submit a permit renewal request no later than ninety (90) days prior to permit expiration.** *The permit is set to expire on July 31, 2025, so the permit renewal application is due by May 2, 2025. The facility submitted their request on April 16, 2025.*
- **A.14 – This condition requires the facility retain a copy of the permit on the premises.** *The facility had a copy of their current operating permit on-site.*
- **B.2 – This condition states the facility shall be operated to prevent odorous emissions from being emitted beyond the boundary of the facility.** *The facility did not produce any odorous emissions during the inspection.*
- **B.3 – This condition limits the facility's visible emissions to 20% opacity averaged over a six-minute period.** *During the inspection, the facility exhibited an opacity of 0%.*

- **B.4 – This condition establishes the facility's sulfur dioxide emission limit of 2.3 lbs per million BTU input resulting from combustion sources.** *The AP-42 SO2 emission factor for (small and large) diesel engines is 0.51 lb/MMBtu based on 0.5% fuel sulfur content and therefore compliance is expected so long as the facility uses fuel with a sulfur content equal to or less than 0.5%.*
- **B.5 – This condition states that equipment ID's ES-1, ES-2, ES-3, ES-4, ES-5, ES-6 shall be operated in accordance with ABAQA Code 4.1111 and NESHAP 40 CFR 63. The requirements are stated in 40 CFR 63 Subpart ZZZZ. ES-1 and ES-2 are exempt from the requirements of 40 CFR 63 subpart ZZZZ as long as they meet the definition of institutional emergency RICE. Emergency generators ES-3, ES-4, ES-5 and ES-6 are subject to 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart IIII, these requirements include the use of ULSD and limit operation for maintenance checks and readiness testing to 100 hours per year. However, the 100-hour limit may be exceeded if the tests are required by Federal, State, or local standards, or by petitioning EPA. Emergency stationary RICE located at area sources of HAP (which is the case for ES-1 and ES-2) may be operated for up to 50 hours per calendar year in non-emergency situations. The 50 hours of operation in non-emergency situations are counted as part of the 100 hours per calendar year for maintenance and testing. The 50 hours per year for non-emergency situations cannot be used for peak shaving, or to generate income for a facility to an electric grid or otherwise supply power as part of a financial arrangement with another entity, except the 50 hours per year for non-emergency situations can be used to supply power as part of a financial arrangement with another entity if certain conditions are met as specified in the permit.** *Service records were provided to the inspector over a month after the conclusion of the inspection, thus resulting in a NOD. The service dates are as follows: ES-1 was serviced on June 5, 2025; ES-2 was serviced on April 22, 2025; ES-3 was serviced on May 27, 2025; ES-4 was serviced on April 22, 2025; ES-5 was serviced on March 7, 2025, and ES-6 was serviced on March 19, 2025.*

- **B.6 – This condition states that equipment ID's ES-3, ES-4. ES-5. ES-6 are subject to NSPS subpart IIII (40 CFR 60.4200 to 60.4219). The facility is following all NSPS Subpart IIII requirements for equipment ID's ES-3, ES-4, ES-5, ES-6 including: a. using manufacturer certified engines; b. using diesel fuel with a sulfur content less than 15ppm; c. operating and maintaining the engines according to manufacturer specifications; d. ensuring all engines are equip with a non-resettable hour meter; e. operating the engine for emergency situations, maintenance and testing, and other exempted non-emergency operations within the subpart's limits not exceeding 100 hours per calendar year per generator for testing and maintenance and 50 hours per year, per generator of non-emergency use, which counts towards the 100 hours for testing and maintenance; and f. maintaining records of engine operation both emergency, and non-emergency.** *The facility maintains records of generator hours, and no generator has operated over the 100-hour non-emergency limit.*
- **B.7 – This condition states that the facility has triggered a toxics review, and has been found to be in compliance with AB Air Quality Code 17.0700 by accepting the following limitations: ES-1 and ES-2 shall each operate no more than 290 non-emergency hours during any consecutive 12-month period.** *Condition B.5 limits the non-emergency hours for ES-1 and ES-2 to 100 hours. See Condition B.8 for generator run times.*
- **B.8 – This condition states that the facility is required to submit reports if non-emergency use exceeds 100 hours for any unit during a calendar year. Additionally, the facility is required to submit annual reports for fuel use and the hours of operation of the generators.** *The most recent annual report was submitted via email on January 31, 2025, and contained all the required information. The total hours for 2024 are as follows: ES-1 operated for 44 hours; ES-2 operated for 37 hours; ES-3 operated for 33 hours; ES-4 operated for 109 hours, ES-5 operated for 88 hours; and ES-6 operated for 56 hours. The emergency generators ran more than usual in 2024 due to Hurricane Helene. In 2022, ES-3 was found to have a faulty hour meter, this was an ongoing issue until*

2024. ABAQA received communication from Brian Chandler that the hour meter was repaired. No issues were seen during this inspection.

Compliance History:

A NOD was issued to the facility on June 3, 2025, for not providing the maintenance records for the permitted equipment in a timely manner. The inspection took place April 30, 2025, and all maintenance reports were not received until June 11, 2025. No further action will be taken.

Conclusion:

Based on the above information, Buncombe County Detention Center appears to be in compliance with all applicable regulations of the ABAQA Code and all applicable NSPS and NESHAP regulations after submitting the required maintenance records on June 11, 2025. It is recommended that this permit be renewed.

Signature: _____ **Date:** 6/11/25

Reviewer Signature: _____ **Date:** 7/9/25

Director Signature: _____ **Date:** 7/15/25

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Facility Inspection Report

Facility Inspection Information					
Facility Name:	MTTG, LLC dba Mill Tek Toll Grinders				
Date of Inspection:	June 17, 2025		**Last Inspected:**	January 30, 2024	
Mailing Address:	PO Box 835 Arden, NC 28704		**Physical Location:**	45 Spiral Rd. Arden, NC 28704	
Contact Name:	Reed Buhler		**Phone Number:**	(970)-310-4134 (303)-668-7231 (Mark Morgan, Owner)	
Contact Email:	milltektollgrinders@outlook.com , rack92@msn.com (Reed's Email)				
Permit #:	11-873-17B	**Issued:**	July 10, 2017	**Expires:**	July 31, 2025
Inspector(s):	Alexander (Alex) Latta				
Results:	Appears in compliance		**Inspection Time:**	0950 hours	

Introduction

On the above date, a comprehensive inspection was conducted at MTTG, LLC dba Mill Tek Toll Grinders. The purpose of this inspection was to determine compliance under the Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency Air Quality Code (AB Air Quality Code). MTTG, LLC dba Mill Tek Toll Grinders, otherwise known as the facility, operates a clay grinding process with the purpose of retrieving the ground clay to use as a raw product in another process. Operation of this facility is granted under permit number 11-873-17B which was issued on July 10, 2017, amended March 9, 2020 and July 12, 2021, and expires on July 31, 2025. The inspection was conducted by Alex Latta. The facility was represented by Reed Buhler. The following is a summary of the inspection results:

Safety Equipment / Special Instructions

Steel-toed shoes, a safety vest, and a hard-hat are required while touring the facility. Hearing protection may be required in certain areas while equipment is operating.

Permitted Equipment:

- One (1) 30 horsepower electrically powered bisque clay crushing system (CS-30), with a maximum design capacity of 2,000 pounds per hour with emissions controlled by one (1) baghouse (EP2). ***This unit was not operating during the inspection.***
- One (1) 40 horsepower electrically powered bisque clay crushing system (CS-40), with a maximum design capacity of 2,000 pounds per hour with emissions controlled by two (2) baghouses (EP3) and (EP4). ***This unit was operating during the inspection. The mill baghouse had a pressure drop of 10 – 12 in W.C. The other baghouse on this process had a pressure drop of 5.0 in W.C.***
- One (1) 40 horsepower electrically powered bisque clay crushing system (CS-40A) with a maximum design capacity of 2,000 pounds per hour with emissions controlled by one (1) baghouse (EP5). ***This unit was operating during the inspection and had a pressure drop reading of 3.6 in W.C.***
- One (1) Screening operation (S-1) with a maximum design capacity of 2,000 pounds per hour with emissions controlled by one (1) baghouse (EP6). ***This unit was operating during the inspection.***
- One (1) 200 horsepower electrically powered bisque clay jet mill crushing system (JM-1) with a maximum design capacity of 500 pounds per hour with emissions controlled by one (1) baghouse (EP7). ***This unit was operational during the inspection and had a pressure drop reading of 0.5 – 0.6 in W.C during pulses.***
- One (1) 20 horsepower electrically powered bisque clay lump breaker crushing system (LB-1) with a maximum design capacity of 1500 pounds per hour with emissions controlled by one (1) baghouse (EP8). ***This unit was not operating during the inspection.***
- One (1) 40 horsepower electrically powered bisque clay crushing system (CS-40B), with a maximum design capacity of 2,000 pounds per hour with emissions controlled by one (1) baghouse (EP9). ***This unit was not operating during the inspection. The unit is used infrequently.***

All of the permitted equipment was observed during the inspection. According to facility representatives, the baghouses EP2, EP8, and EP9 function more as vacuums within the process to minimize dust and do not feature magnehelic gauges. According to the facility, so long as

those units do not emit dust, they are operating correctly. Once dust is noticed, the bags are changed since the presence of dust indicates the bag is full.

Permit Conditions:

The following does not represent all permitted conditions, only the permit conditions that are directly relevant to the inspection. For all the conditions, please review the permit.

- **A.7 – This condition requires that the permittee maintain and operate the facility at all times so that the overall reduction in air pollutants, in accordance with applicable standards, is achieved.** *The facility has developed a maintenance schedule for equipment and is maintaining records of all maintenance. Additionally, the facility is maintaining an inventory of spare parts for equipment. The facility has established standard operating procedures for equipment and is training equipment operators on the procedures.*
- **A.8 – This condition requires that the facility notify the Agency in the event of a malfunction.** *The facility has not experienced any malfunctions during the reporting period.*
- **A.11 – This condition requires that the facility pay their annual permit fee on a timely basis.** *The facility is up-to-date on fee payments. The facility last submitted their fee payment on August 12, 2024.*
- **A.12 – This condition states that the facility is required to submit a permit renewal request no later than ninety (90) days prior to permit expiration.** *The facility's permit expires July 31, 2025 and the renewal request was due no later than May 2, 2025. The facility submitted their permit renewal request on May 15, 2025. A notice of deficiency (NOD) was mailed to the facility on June 12, 2025 to address this issue.*
- **A.14 – This condition requires the facility retain a copy of the permit on the premises.** *The facility had a copy of their current operating permit on-site.*

- **B.2 – This condition states the facility shall be operated to ensure visible emissions do not exceed 20% opacity over a six-minute average.** *At the time of the inspection, the facility was not exhibiting an opacity. The only equipment exhibiting an opacity was the jet mill which would emit small momentary puffs during pulses around 10% opacity. These emissions were all contained to the inside of the building and fugitive emissions were not escaping from the open areas of the building to the outside.*
- **B.3 – This condition establishes the facility's particulate matter emission limit.** *Specific allowable emission rates are listed in the permit review form for this facility. The facility is meeting these limits through proper operation of the baghouses during facility operation. Vendor supplied records show a capture efficiency of 99.7% which was used to determine the facility's potential emissions which meet the requirements of AB Air Quality Code 4.0515.*
- **B.4 – This condition requires the facility to minimize fugitive dust at the facility.** *During the inspection, fugitive dust was not observed outside the manufacturing section of the plant.*
- **B.5 – This condition requires the facility to inspect and maintain the fabric filters to ensure proper operation of the equipment. Inspections are required on at least an annual basis and the results of all inspections and maintenance must be maintained in logs.** *The facility conducts inspections on a monthly basis on average. The last inspection occurred on June 2, 2025. The facility normally conducts inspections on the first operational day of each month. Additionally, the facility constantly monitors the baghouses in order to change bags once full.*
- **B.6 – This condition requires the facility to submit annual reports by February 15th.** *The facility is submitting annual reports as required. The most recent annual report was postmarked February 13, 2025, received on February 18, 2025, and contained all the required information. For 2024, the throughput of crushed clay at the facility was 3,807,283 lbs from January - December.*

Compliance History:

On June 12, 2025, a Notice of Deficiency (NOD) was issued to MTTG dba Mill Tek Toll Grinders for late submittal of the 2025 permit renewal request. The facility's permit expires July 31, 2025 and the renewal request was due no later than May 2, 2025. The facility submitted their permit renewal request on May 15, 2025. No further action was taken by the Agency.

Conclusion:

Based on the above information, MTTG dba Mill Tek Toll Grinders. appears to be in compliance with all applicable regulations of the AB Air Quality Code. It is recommended that this permit be renewed.

Signature: _____ **Date:** 6/17/2025

Reviewer Signature: _____ **Date:** 7/9/25

Director Signature: _____ **Date:** 7/11/2025

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency
APPLICATION REVIEW SUMMARY

SECTION A: FACILITY INFORMATION			
Company Name:	Smith-Rowe, LLC		
Site Name:	Smith-Rowe, LLC		
Mailing Address:	639 Old US 52 South, Mount Airy, NC 27030		
Site Address:	APAC Buncombe Sites and various locations in Buncombe County		
General Description of Business:	Portable Rock Crusher		
Facility Classification:	Small	**Site Status:**	New

SECTION B: APPLICATION INFORMATION			
Date of Application:	June 11, 2025	**Application Tracking No.:**	NA
Date Complete Application Received:	July 10, 2025	**Board Meeting Date:**	July 24, 2025
Confidentiality Requested?	No	**Board Agenda Type:**	Construct and Operate
Application Results:	With this permit application, Smith-Rowe, LLC is requesting approval to operate their portable rock crusher.		
Permit No. / Date Issued by Application:	11-924-25 / July 24, 2025		
Permit No. / Date Voided by Application:	NA		

SECTION C: REGULATORY INFORMATION	
AB Air Quality Regulations:	4.0510, 4.0521, 4.0524, 4.0540, 4.0605, 17.0311

SECTION D: FACILITY-WIDE EMISSIONS INFORMATION		
Pollutants Reviewed as a Result of this Application or AB Air Quality Action:	**Actual Emissions (TONS/YR) None – New Facility**	**Potential Emissions (TONS/YR)**
PM	--	7.08*
PM-10	--	2.54*
PM-2.5	--	0.27*
SO_2	--	--
NO_X	--	--
CO	--	--
VOC	--	--
Greenhouse Gases - GHG	--	--
All Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)	--	--
List all HAPs >10TPY of potential emissions	None.	

***Emission numbers denoted with an (*) reflect "controlled" emissions (i.e. emissions reduced by a pollution control device).**

IN COMPLIANCE WITH EMISSION STANDARDS / RECOMMEND APPROVAL			
Prepared By:	James C. Raiford / JCR	**Date Completed:**	7/10/25
Reviewed By:	Ashley J. Featherstone / Ashley J. Featherstone	**Date Approved:**	7/17/2025
Director:	Ashley J. Featherstone / Ashley J. Featherstone	**Date Approved:**	7/17/2025

SECTION A DETAILS

FACILITY INFORMATION

[Detailed discussion of any items in Section A]

Smith-Rowe, LLC is proposing to operate a concrete crushing unit in Buncombe County. The process involves loading the concrete or stone and crushing it in an impact crusher followed by screening the concrete or stone and using a conveyor to stack the aggregate for sale or other use. The air emissions resulting from this process are fugitive dust and diesel exhaust. Fugitive dust emissions are controlled by the application of a water spray during the crushing operations. The diesel engine is considered a mobile source covered under Title II of the Clean Air Act.

The facility is requesting an expedited permit to operate at the Harrison Construction – APAC Atlantic sites in Buncombe County. This includes 118 Smokey Park Highway, Candler, NC; 1557 Grovestone Road, Black Mountain; and 450 Goldview Road, Weaverville. The permit request included the $300 permit application fee. Zoning consistency letters were received from Black Mountain on July 8, 2025 and from Buncombe County on July 10, 2025.

SECTION B DETAILS

APPLICATION INFORMATION

[List all emission sources (permitted and exempt) reviewed as a result of this application, their associated control devices and pollutants. Provide a detailed discussion of any other items in Section B at bottom under "Application Notes"]

Emission Source ID	Emission Source Description 1. Type, manufacturer, capacity 2. Control device with ID (if any)	Pollutant(s) Emitted	Miscellaneous Notes
ES1	One (1) portable rock crusher with a facility wide maximum process rate of 275 tons per hour consisting of the following equipment:	PM, PM-10, PM-2.5	The facility is permitted for ES1. ES2 thru ES5 are the attachments at the time of the permit application. The permit allows flexibility with attachments. See notes.
ES1	One (1) portable impact crusher with a rated capacity of 275 tons per hour, powered by one (1) 415-hp diesel engine.	PM, PM-10, PM-2.5	Wet suppression techniques are employed at this piece of equipment. The crusher is a 260 Crusher and was manufactured in 2017.
ES2	One (1) 3-deck portable screen with a maximum rated capacity of 275 tons per hour	PM, PM-10, PM-2.5	Wet suppression techniques are employed at this piece of equipment.
ES3	One (1) 2-deck portable screen with a maximum rated capacity of 275 tons per hour	PM, PM-10, PM-2.5	Wet suppression techniques are employed at this piece of equipment.
ES4 – ES5	Two (2) portable stacking conveyors with a maximum rated capacity of 275 tons per hour.	PM, PM-10, PM-2.5	Wet suppression techniques are employed at these pieces of equipment.

APPLICATION NOTES

Specific Conditions 13 and 14 of the permit outline the equipment notification and reporting requirements. The facility is required to keep an updated list of the equipment with the facility which includes date of manufacture, dimensions of conveyors and screens, and other information. Ten days prior to moving the facility into, within, or out of Buncombe County, the facility needs to notify the Agency of the move and the updated equipment list.

SECTION C DETAILS

REGULATORY INFORMATION

(Identify the AB Air Quality Regulations reviewed because of this application. At a minimum, the regulations already listed should be reviewed and reason given for applicability or non-applicability. If a regulation has a standard, list the standard and indicate how the source is in compliance.)

AB Air Quality Regulation Number / Title	Emission Source ID No(s). Subject	Notes on Regulation (Compliance demonstration, applicability, etc.)
17.0500 – Title V Procedures	NA	The facility does not have potential emissions above the threshold of 100 tons/year for any criteria pollutant, 25 tons/year for any combination of hazardous air pollutants, 10 tons/year for any individual hazardous air pollutant.
17.0700 – Toxic Air Pollutant Procedures	NA	The construction and operation of this facility does not trigger a toxics review.
4.0524 – New Source Performance Standards	ES1-ES5	The facility is subject to NSPS Subpart OOO – "Standards of Performance for Nonmetallic Mineral Processing Plants". The crusher was constructed, modified, or reconstructed after April 22, 2008, it shall not exhibit greater than 12% opacity. The screening operation and conveyor belt were constructed, modified, or reconstructed after April 22, 2008 and they shall not exhibit greater than 7% opacity. Any wet process shall not exhibit any visible emissions. Any facility utilizing wet suppression must perform monthly periodic inspections and maintain logs of inspections of water nozzles. Corrective action must take place within 24 hours or as soon as possible.
4.0530 – Prevention of Significant Deterioration	NA	The facility does not have potential emissions above the threshold of 250 tons/year for any criteria pollutant.
4.0510 – Particulates from Sand, Gravel, and Crushed Stone Operations	All crushers, conveyors, and screens listed on the equipment list	The facility is required to minimize particulate matter emissions so that visible emissions, TSP, and PM-10 levels do not exceed the applicable standards.
4.0540 – Particulates from Fugitive Non-Process Dust Emission Sources	All sources of fugitive non-process dust	The facility will take reasonable precautions to prevent particulate matter from becoming airborne as a result of storage, transportation, processing, and handling of materials.
4.0605 – General Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements	Entire facility	The facility is required to submit an annual report with the throughput of crushed material.
17.0311 – Permitting of Facilities at Multiple Temporary Sites	Entire facility	The facility is permitted to operate at various locations in Buncombe County. The permittee must notify the agency at least 10 days in advance of each change of location and for sites other than the 3 APAC sites listed on the permit, must obtain a zoning consistency letter for each location or a letter that bears the date of receipt entered by the clerk of the local government that is at least fifteen days prior to the relocation date.

REGULATORY NOTES

This review based on original configuration of the portable crushing unit with its accoutrements.

SECTION D DETAILS				
EMISSION INFORMATION				
Calculation Method Codes (List all that apply)	**1 = Stack test result 2 = Material (mass) balance 3 = EPA approved information (AP-42, CTG, etc.) 4 = Other (specify in table below)**			
Calculation Rejection Codes (List all that apply)	**1 = Calculation error 2 = Wrong emission factor(s) used 3 = Control efficiency(ies) not accepted 4 = Other (specify in table below)**			
Emission Source (ID No.)	**Calculation Method Code**	**Accept or Reject?**	**Calculation Rejection Code**	**AB Air Quality Calculations Attached?**
Entire Facility	3	NA	NA	Yes

EMISSION NOTES

Emissions calculations were performed by the AB Air Quality Agency.

SECTION E

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

(Provide brief description of any attachments)

1. Permit Application Dated June 11, 2025
2. Zoning consistency letters from Buncombe County and Black Mountain.
3. Emission Calculations
4. Draft of Permit
5. Draft of Permit Cover Letter
6. Invoice