Thomas Gunter <thomasgunter@utah.gov>

Utah Air Quality rule changes

1 message

Brad Duncan ███████████████████████████ Thu, Oct 25, 2018 at 9:16 AM
To: thomasgunter@utah.gov

Hi Thomas,
I know that there is a comment period open for certain rule changes and as I was looking here: https://deq.utah.gov/air-quality/air-quality-rule-plan-changes-open-public-comment I was having a difficult time following what each proposed change actually was and how it would impact air quality in Utah. I presume most citizens are not commenting much for similar reasons. With a chemistry background, I'm sure I could understand the rule changes better than most with some effort. However, it would be nice to have a synopsis/summary of the changes in more lay person terms. Do you have something like that available?

Either way, I can't express how important good air quality in Utah is. Our state prides itself on skiing, outdoors, travel, and tourism and in the key winter months I hear every year of people who choose to not come to Utah for things like the Sundance Film Festival or skiing because of the poor air quality. Yes, I know inversions are extremely difficult to work with and, at the same time, there is certainly far more that we can be doing as a state and community to address this. Furthermore, the ozone, while less visible, is also a major problem in the summer, particularly for those of us who are active outdoors in the summer time.

All that said, I would strongly encourage you to make rule changes that help to address this poor air quality. As a long-time SLC resident, I would be supportive of increased taxes to improve frequency of public transportation and incentivize car pooling and non-motorized transportation. Furthermore, we have a distinct reason to incentivize forms of transportation that do not emit tailpipe emissions since a large contingent of our pollution problems is the emission from vehicles.

Thank you for your time and for your efforts to improve the air quality in our state.

Brad Duncan
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