

TREASURE VALLEY AIR QUALITY COUNCIL

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Treasure Valley Air Quality Council Seeks Community Involvement in Active Citizens Committee

BOISE, Idaho – The Treasure Valley Air Quality Council (www.TreasureValleyAir.org), a 14-member panel created by the Treasure Valley and Regional Air Quality Act, today issued a call to community members interested in serving on its citizens committee. The citizens committee will play an important role in encouraging and relaying public input on air quality concerns in the Treasure Valley to the council, as well as contributing to the drafting process of an air quality plan for the region.

“Involved citizens are essential to the community-based solutions at the heart of our democracy,” said Pete O’Neill, chairman of the council, appointed by former Governor and current U.S. Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne and directed by the Idaho Legislature to craft an air quality plan for the Treasure Valley. “We look forward to working with our neighbors to protect our air quality and our local economy’s ability to continue to create jobs.”

The Treasure Valley and Regional Air Quality Act includes the establishment of a citizens committee to assist the council in crafting an air quality plan for the region. Members of the citizens committee will be a direct liaison between the general public and the council, hosting public meetings to discuss key issues regarding air quality and assisting the council through the remainder of the drafting process, which will result in a final air quality plan being submitted for review to the Idaho legislature during the 2007 session. Anyone 18-years-of-age or older may participate.

Those interested in serving on the citizens committee should contact Dr. Dale Stephenson, Treasure Valley Air Quality Council Vice Chairman, or Ethan Curtis and Kris Kamann, Scott Peyron & Associates. Contact information is as follows: Dr. Dale Stephenson (841-8950 or dalestephenson@boisestate.edu); Ethan Curtis (388-3800 or ecurtis@peyron.com); Kris Kamann (388-3800 or kkamann@peyron.com).

The council will be making the draft of its Treasure Valley Air Quality Plan public Friday, June 30, at a press conference to be held at Storey Park in Meridian, beginning at 11 a.m. (MT). Storey Park is located on the corner of Main St. and Franklin St.

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About the Treasure Valley Air Quality Council...

The Treasure Valley Air Quality Council was formed by the Treasure Valley and Regional Air Quality Act that was signed into law in March, 2005. The 14-member council was appointed by former Governor and current U.S. Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne in November, 2005. As mandated by the act, the council will submit a Treasure Valley Air Quality Plan for review to the Idaho legislature for the 2007 session. To learn more about the council, visit its website – www.TreasureValleyAir.org. The site describes the history of the Treasure Valley and Regional Air Quality Act, the makeup of the 14-member council, provides a message board for dialogue regarding the air quality plan, gives background on the citizens committee and how to join, supplies research materials used by the council in crafting its plan, and answers frequently-asked questions.

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