PQAO, From a District’s Perspective!

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Overview

• WHO IS THE MDAQMD?

• WHAT THE HECK IS A PQAO?

• WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME (The District)?

• DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES AS A MEMBER OF A PQAO

• 5- TAKE-AWAYS FROM THIS PRESENTATION
WHO IS THE MDAQMD
WHAT THE HECK IS A PQAO?

Peafowl are known as Indian Peafowl, or Indian Blue.

Small, oval citrus fruits

Primary Quality Assurance Organization
WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME

• Another ARB/EPA program
• More paper work
• Participation in more ARB and EPA meetings
WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME

- ARB and EPA sticking their noses in our business
WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME

THE ABOVE MENTIONED STATEMENTS ARE ALL TRUE!!!

STOP

YIELD

But the benefits will far outweigh the additional workload!!
WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME

- Consistency / Standardization
- Comparability
- Time and Resource Saving
- Improved Data Quality
WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME

Consistency / Standardization

Combined Years of Experience

Years at the District
WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME

District
• Loss of many years of knowledge and experience that can’t be replaced
• Your new hires will probably be a young college graduate with no experience in Air Monitoring.

EPA & ARB
• PQAO provides standard documents for interpretation
• PQAO provides standard training practices and procedures
• ARB and EPA have enough staff to ensure longevity within the programs
WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME

Time and Resource Saving

• Free instrument certification /verification services through ARB’s Standards Laboratory

• ARB maintains and disseminate Standard Operating Procedures for monitoring and analysis

• Many QA requirements implemented at PQAO level, not district level

• Lower cost for instrument repair through ARB shop
WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME?

Comparability

• Instrument validation and acceptance testing provided by ARB
• SOPs prepared by ARB ensures that the District’s are all complying with the same guidance
• EPA & ARB’s shared resources, such as, knowledge, experience and equipment obtain flow from buster pump
WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME?

Improved Data Quality

• Access to ARB’s PE Audit programs

• Data assessment along established DQOs (P/A/C)

• Independent QA assistance/oversight from ARB’s QMB (TSAs, document review, R&Rs, etc.)

• Comprehensive corrective action system (AQDA and CAN)
PAY BACK!!!!

• There’s no such thing as a free lunch
• There’s no such thing as a free dog
• There’s no such thing as a free PQAO.

HOWEVER

• There is an old wise tale that say’s
• “If you scratch my back, I’ll scratch yours”
DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES AS A MEMBER OF A PQAO

- Utilize and follow ARB’s Quality Management Plan
- Provide a supervisory Point-of-Contact or designee
- Participate in ARB and EPA sponsored ambient air monitoring training
- Participate in the Ambient Monitoring Technical Advisory Committee (AMTAC)
DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES
AS A MEMBER OF A PQAO

• Participate in the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA)

• Make available to ARB records of quality assurance related documents (QMP, QAPP, SOP, training plans, etc.)
DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES
AS A MEMBER OF A PQAO

• Utilize ARB’s certification, calibration and verification services for district certification

• Submit a data certification package to EPA by May 1 of each year

• Complete and submit the annual network questionnaire regarding monitoring operation and equipment changes
FIVE POINTS TO REMEMBER

1. What’s in it for me?
2. There is no such thing a free PQAO!
3. Being an active member of PQAO will benefit your District in the long run!
4. Potential to produce Consistent, High Quality, and Defensible Data!
5. The long nose of EPA and ARB is not always a bad thing!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!