

David Mistich

From: Glance, Jacob P <Jacob.P.Glance@wv.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 02, 2017 2:34 PM
To: David Mistich
Cc: Messina, Lawrence C
Subject: RE: Today

Dave,

DEP tested for compounds and elements that provided an idea of the level of the impact the fire was having on the air quality at the ground level. These included volatile organic compounds, carbon monoxide, and oxygen.

The results showed that these were well below the acceptable levels set for workers by NIOSH, especially with the level of VOCs as referenced to methane.

DEP shared its data was shared with Incident Command, which also consulted with health experts to determine if there would be any shelter-in-place or evacuation orders.

DEP focused on sampling that it had the capability to perform, knowing that it would not be the only sampling conducted.

DEP's contribution proved valuable because its sampling was instantaneous and mobile. DEP's team could see where the plume was going and follow it, taking samples along the way. That's a great advantage to have in a situation like this. Sampling was also done "immediate location" of the fire.

DEP's efforts were complimented by that of Ohio EPA, U.S. EPA, and the U.S. EPA contractor. Together, their combined capabilities helped to determine the impact this fire had on the air quality around Parkersburg. Each performed sampling and testing based on its respective capabilities. Each contributed data to the overall view of the impact that this fire had on the air quality.

Specifically, DEP's team relied on the handheld monitors used by DEP's Homeland Security and Emergency Response. These consist of two Eagle-2 Type 6017 monitors, two Altair 5X Multi-gas Detectors, and photoionization detectors (PIDs) that are still in the field.

DEP began the sampling just hours after the fire was reported, at around noon on Sat., Oct. 21. It also looked to the Division of Air Quality (DAQ) monitor at Vienna. DAQ's duties include long-term monitoring of ambient air quality across the state.

Among what has been posted online are results from the Vienna monitor. That station did detect a slightly higher level of particulate matter in the air. It is important to note, however, that its data was collected on Sunday, that it is several miles away, that the monitor is stationary, and that it may or may not have been in the smoke plume for any great length of time. The Vienna monitor is part of DAQ's statewide stationary monitoring network; it is not a mobile monitor.

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From: David Mistich [mailto:dmistich@wvpublic.org]
Sent: Thursday, November 02, 2017 10:52 AM
To: Glance, Jacob P <Jacob.P.Glance@wv.gov>; David Mistich <dmistich@wvpublic.org>
Subject: Re: Today

Thanks, Jake.

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From: Glance, Jacob P <Jacob.P.Glance@wv.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2017 10:50:20 AM
To: David Mistich
Subject: Today

I will have something for you today.

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