



“ Jobs, Homes & Individual Rights ”

September 18, 2011

Ms. Mary Gearheart, Chair  
Planning Commission  
County of Humboldt  
825 Fifth Street, Room 111  
Eureka, California 95501

Subject: GPU – Air Quality Element

Dear Chair Gearheart and Planning Commissioners:

The **Notice of Release and Public Hearing Dates** for the Air Quality Element of the GPU, was issued September 14, 2011 (see attached). There was no mention of the 30-day lead time from the date of issuance, to the first Planning Commission meeting addressing the subject. The Notice refers to hearing dates of September through October.

In keeping with County policy, first established by the Planning Commission six (6) years ago, during Tom Herman’s chairmanship, and then re-established during Jeff Smith’s chairmanship, there should be a 30-day review period before the first public hearing.

Therefore the first possible Planning Commission agenda reflecting the Air Quality Element, should be Friday, October 14, 2011. If scheduled for a regular meeting of the Commission, the date would be October 20, 2011.

Organizations, as well as individual citizens, who are fully vested in the review and commenting on the GPU for many years, need time to review, and prepare testimony on each element. We respectfully ask that you please instruct staff **to reissue the Notice** to show the first hearing date to be any Planning Commission meeting on or after October 14, 2011.

Thank you for addressing this important issue.

Sincerely,

*Kay Backer*

Kay Backer, representing  
Humboldt Economic and Land Plan

cc: County Planning Commissioners  
County Board of Supervisors  
Phillip Smith Hanes, County Administrative Officer  
Wendy Chaitin, County Counsel  
Carolyn Ruth, Assistant County Counsel  
Kirk A. Girard, Community Development Services Director  
Michael Richardson, Senior Planner  
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board  
Norma Lorenzo, Planning Commission Clerk

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# Notice of Release and Public Hearing Dates

Release of the Plan Alternatives for the **Air Quality Element**

of the Humboldt County Draft General Plan

September 14, 2011

The **Key Issues and Plan Alternatives Comparison Charts** for the draft General Plan Update (GPU) for **Chapter 15, Air Quality Element** is now available to the public. The Commission intends to continue the ongoing discussion of the draft Plan, (**currently discussing Chapter 12, Energy Element**) throughout September and October. Currently, future hearing dates identified include:

September 15, 2011

September 22, 2011

September 29, 2011 (**tentative**)

October 13, 2011

October 20, 2011

October 27, 2011

**Public testimony on the Air Quality Element will begin once the Commission has completed their review of the Water Resources Element.** The Commission will determine additional meeting dates depending on the volume of testimony and time necessary for deliberation. Notices of these hearings will be provided by email only unless a written request is received by County staff. To be placed on the email list to receive notices of the hearings please contact Martha Spencer at (707) 268-3704 or by email at [m Spencer@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:m Spencer@co.humboldt.ca.us).

The Key Issues and Plan Alternatives Comparison Charts explain what the major issues are for these sections and list the goals, policies, standards, and implementation measures for Plan Alternatives A, B, C and D in one chart for comparison purposes. Copies are available on the GPU website at [www.planupdate.org](http://www.planupdate.org) and will also be available for viewing at the Humboldt County Library and the Community Development Services Department front counter. For further information, or to be placed on the email list to receive notices of workshops, please contact Martha Spencer by email at [m Spencer@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:m Spencer@co.humboldt.ca.us) or by telephone at (707) 268-3704 or Tom Hofweber at 268-3738.

Planning Division of the Humboldt County Community Development Services

Dated: September 14, 2011

**Martha Spencer**

Senior Planner

Humboldt County Community Development Services