

MVCAC Minutes
April 11, 2005

Mary Wildfire began the meeting by reporting on the Truth About Gob (TAB) forum and the PA DEP hearing that were held in Pennsylvania. TAG is trying to stop a proposed waste coal burning power plant that is proposed by the Wellington Development Company to be built in Nemaquin, PA. She stated that there were approximately 65 people at the forum. At the hearing that was held at the UMW headquarters a couple of days later, there were approximately 200 people. The public comment session was held first, and then the question and answer session followed. The lobbyist for Wellington answered nearly all of the questions while representatives from the PA DEP (who were supposed to be in charge) sat silently.

Jarrett reported that the non-attainment status on particulate levels for Marion, Monongalia, and Preston Counties had been reversed by the WV Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Duane reported that HB 2849 was introduced into the legislature by a number of delegates, including our own Marshall, Beach, Houston, and Frich. This bill amends the WV Code. The purpose, as stated in the bill is: "... to authorize the Public Service Commission of West Virginia to consider and issue a "financing order" to certain regulated electric utilities to permit the financing of emission control facilities at West Virginia generating facilities. The "securitization" mechanism authorized in the bill would permit the costs of these emission controls, which are generally recoverable in a utility's rates, to be financed at a lower cost to customers than traditional utility financing mechanisms."

Duane also reported that Alcon, the company who will build the proposed concrete batch plant on Baker's Ridge Rd. had applied for a permit from the DEP to build the plant. He volunteered to write a letter on behalf of MVCAC that would express our concerns regarding the environmental impact of this plant.