



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

UINTAH BASIN AIR QUALITY

NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
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ISSUE BRIEF 2

SUMMARY

The Air Quality Program is responsible for the development and maintenance of the plans for the control of ozone and particulate matter. This involves the analysis of monitoring data collected by the monitoring section to determine compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and the determination of the sources of any violations of the standards.

An impediment to the development of resource management plans for hydrocarbon exploration in the Uintah Basin is the lack of certainty in the areas of ambient air quality, appropriate emission reduction techniques and understanding the factors that influence the formation of ozone and fine particulate pollution. The Utah Division of Air Quality has established an Oil and Gas Air Quality Partnership to evaluate the impacts and determine the best approaches for managing the air shed in the Uintah Basin.

The Department of Environmental Quality is requesting a \$200,000 General Fund appropriation to fund one FTE and current expense to implement this partnership.

Action of the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Subcommittee developing the base budget funded \$69,700 of this request.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The Analyst recommends that the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Subcommittee consider funding \$130,300 from the General Fund for this program for FY 2012.