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STAFF REPORT

Date: August 3, 2022
To: Threshold Update Initiative Stakeholders Working Group
From: TRPA Staff
Subject: Air Quality Threshold Standards

Summary:

Staff will provide an overview of the proposed principles to guide adoption of air and water quality standards. This item is presented for discussion and guidance from the working group.

Background:

Threshold standards establish the partnership's shared goals for environmental quality and desired outcomes for the Tahoe Region. The Bi-State Compact requires that the Regional Plan at a minimum achieve all thresholds. The Bi-State Compact places additional requirements on the Regional Plan for air and water quality, and requires that it; "provide for attaining and maintaining Federal, State, or local air and water quality standards, whichever are strictest, in the respective portions of the region for which the standards are applicable."

The unique requirements for air and water quality in the Bi-State Compact require the partnership to make choices in the adoption of air and water quality threshold standards that it does not have to make in other threshold categories. The current threshold standards do not appear to follow a consistent approach with respect to their relationship with state and federal air and water quality standards. At the August 10th meeting of the Threshold Update Initiative Stakeholders Working Group, staff will present an overview of the proposed principles to guide adoption of air and water quality standards.

Contact Information:

For questions regarding this item, please contact Dan Segan, Principal Natural Resource Analyst, at dsegan@trpa.org, (775) 589-5233.

Attachments:

- A. Air Quality Threshold Standards