



# Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

## Request for Board Action

**Meeting Date: May 20, 2025**

### Consent Agenda

**Department:** Air Quality **Presenter(s):** Steve Ensley

**Contact(s):** Steve Ensley and Ashley Featherstone, Air Quality

**Subject:** Air Quality Monitoring Site Expansion at AB Tech

### Brief Summary:

Asheville-Buncombe Air Quality Agency (AB Air Quality) operates air pollution monitoring equipment that is part of the national ambient air quality monitoring network. EPA oversees the network and state and local air quality agencies operate the equipment in accordance with EPA regulations.

EPA requires a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) of our size to operate two ozone samplers. The recent revision to the Asheville MSA removed Haywood County which contained one of these samplers. As a result, we no longer meet this requirement. AB tech has been identified as a suitable location for this second sampler. AB Air Quality has maintained a presence there for many years monitoring for air toxics. We would like to replace the existing toxics shelter with a larger one that could house both the toxics sampler and the new ozone sampler. The new 8' x 12' building requires a concrete pad to support the structure. DEQ has offered the use of a new metal building and AB Air Quality will purchase and operate the equipment.

This site has been approved by administration at AB Tech (Amendment No. One to MOU regarding use of A-B Tech Facilities) and would be the most expedient and logical location given our existing presence. We would like to ask the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners to approve this action in order to meet our obligations to EPA.

### Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Motion to approve the Amendment No. One to MOU Regarding Use of A-B Tech Facilities which allows the expansion of the existing small monitoring enclosure at AB Tech with an 8' x 12' building.

### County Manager's Comments & Recommendations:

County Manager recommends as presented.