

REGIONAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, September 24, 2009
H-GAC Conference Room A
3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor
Houston, Texas 77027

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Craig Beskid (Via Phone)
Laura Blackburn
Dana Blume
Patrick Buzbee (Via Phone)
Charles Airiohuodion (Alternate for Elvia Cardinal)
(Via Phone)
Elena Craft
Catarina Gonzalez-Cron
Dan Hoyt
Stuart Mueller (Alternate for Badruddin Karachiwala)
Robert Lanham
Ron Schultz (Alternate for Larry Mann)

Rebecca Hengstenberg (Alternate for Matthew Kuryla)
Mark McClelland
Sarah Mason (Alternate for Karl Pepple)
(Via Phone)
Cynthia Redwine
Edmund J. Petry (Alternate for Kimberly Slaughter)
Arianne Robinson (Alternate for Adam Smith)
Matthew Tejada
G. Michael White
Beth Whitehead
Paulette Wolfson
Julie Woodard (via Phone)

STAFF PRESENT:

Lola Brown (TCEQ)
Ben Finley (H-GAC)
Kim Herndon (TCEQ)
Lauren Hoff-Ovshak (H-GAC)
Dick Karp (TCEQ)
Crystal Spencer (H-GAC)

Diana Sullivan (TCEQ)
Jay Tonne (TCEQ)
Shelley Whitworth (H-GAC)
Walker Williamson (TCEQ)
Carl Young (EPA)

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Jamie Galloway
Mike Leech
Snehal Patel
Jeff Suggs

CALL TO ORDER:

1. Mr. Matthew Tejada called the meeting to order at 2:03 P.M. and welcomed attending members.

a. Amendments

An amendment to the meeting summary was made to reflect that a TCEQ meeting is Scheduled on Austin on October 29th at 3:00 P.M.

The meeting summary was approved with amendments.

b. Membership Updates

- i. Mr. Badruddin Karachiwala has been reappointed to RAQPC from Harris County.
- ii. Ms. Lisa Chisholm is the new alternate for Mr. G. Michael White.
- iii. Ms. Rebecca G. Hengstenberg is the new alternate for Mr. Matthew Kuryla.

AGENCY REPORTS:

1. TCEQ Update – Ms. Lola Brown

Suspended due to TCEQ presentation

2. EPA Update – Mr. Carl Young

a. Area Designations for the 2008 Revised Ozone Standard

Last week EPA announced that is reconsidering the 2008 ozone standards. EPA is reconsidering both the primary standard to protect human health and the secondary standard to protect welfare. EPA plans to:

- stay the ozone designations process for the 2008 standards
- propose reconsidered standards in December 2009
- issue final standards in August 2010
- accelerate the designation process so that EPA completes area designations in August 2011
- have State Implementation Plans due in December 2013

b. Proposed Disapproval of Texas State Implementation Plan (SIP) Revisions Related to Air Permitting

EPA recently proposed to disapprove revisions to the Texas SIP that pertain to key aspects of the Texas clean-air permitting program. Its proposals are in three notices published in Federal Register on September 23, 2009. Specifically EPA is proposing to disapprove the Flexible Permits Program, the Qualified Facilities Program and the New Source Review revisions that include the Standard Permit provisions for Pollution Control Projects. The comment period for the proposals closes on November 23. Electronic dockets for each proposal are established in the regulations.gov website. EPA intends to take a final action on these revisions in accordance with the Consent Decree.

c. Greenhouse Gas Mandatory Reporting Rule

On September 22 EPA approved a mandatory greenhouse gas (GHG) reporting rule. Fossil fuel and industrial GHG suppliers, motor vehicle and engine manufacturers, and facilities that emit 25,000 metric tons or more of carbon dioxide equivalent per year will be required to report GHG emissions data to EPA annually. GHG emissions covered under the rule are carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorochemicals, and sulfur hexafluoride, as well as other fluorinated gases (e.g., nitrogen trifluoride and hydrofluorinated ethers). The first annual reports for the largest emitting facilities, covering calendar year 2010, will be submitted to EPA in March 2011. Vehicle and engine manufacturers outside of the light-duty sector will begin phasing in GHG reporting with model year 2011.

The FY 2008 Appropriations Bill called for EPA to develop this rule. More information on the new reporting system and reporting requirements, including a Question and Answer document, is available at:

www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ghgrulemaking.html . Also, there is a Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule Hotline at: (877) 444-1188; or e-mail: ghgmrr@epa.gov.

d. Proposal to Establish Federal Automobile Standards for Fuel Economy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The President announced in May an agreement with automobile manufacturers and the State of California on a program to develop uniform federal standards to regulate both fuel economy and greenhouse gas emissions for cars and light-duty trucks. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and EPA proposed rules to implement the agreement in today's Federal Register. The proposal was published on September 28. The proposed rules can be found at

www.epa.gov/otaq/climate/regulations.htm or regulations.gov (Docket EPA-HQ-OAR-2009-0472).

e. Proposals to Control Ship Emissions

On August 28 EPA published its proposal for more stringent emission standards for the largest marine diesel engines used for oceangoing vessels. The proposed engine standards are equivalent to the nitrogen oxide (NOx) limits recently adopted under the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL). EPA is also proposing a change to the diesel fuel program to limit marine fuel oil to 1,000 parts per million (ppm) sulfur.

The International Maritime Organization is scheduled to vote in March 2010 on the U.S. proposal to designate the U.S. coastal areas as emission control areas for ocean-going ships.

Approval of these proposals will reduce ship emissions of NOx, particulate matter and sulfur oxides. For more information please go to www.epa.gov/otaq/oceanvessels.htm.

f. Upcoming Request for Proposals (RFP) for Additional Diesel Emission Reduction Projects

The Region 6 office has heard that EPA will be issuing a RFP for additional diesel emission reduction projects. When the RFP comes out the Region 6 office will notify H-GAC and the RAQPC.

g. PM 2.5 Area Designations

The EPA Administrator is expected to announce area designations for the 24 hour fine particulate (PM2.5) national ambient air quality standard. In 2006 EPA revised the 24 hour PM2.5 standard to 35 ug/m³. No areas in Texas are currently listed as violating the 24 hour PM2.5.

In a related action, EPA will be considering a nonattainment designation for the Harris County area where monitoring from 2006 to 2008 shows that the annual PM2.5 standard of 15 ug/m³ is being violated. EPA will provide H-GAC and the RAQPC with additional information as it becomes available.

3. Regional Ozone Update – Ms. Diana Sullivan, TCEQ

a. 8 Hour Ozone Standards

The Houston area had 26 days of exceeding 8 hour ozone standards at regulatory stations. An additional three (3) days of exceedences were observed in the non regulatory stations.

b. 1 Hour Ozone Standards

Four (4) days exceeded the 1 hour ozone standard at regulatory stations. Two (2) additional days of exceedences were observed at non regulatory stations.

c. Comparisons

The California south coast area observed 72 days exceeding the 8 hour ozone standards and fourteen (14) days exceeding the one (1) hour standard for 2009.

PRESENTATION:

1. “HGB SIP and Associated Revisions for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone Standard Proposed at the September 23rd TCEQ Agenda” – Ms. Lola Brown, TCEQ; Mr. Dick Karp, TCEQ; Mr. Jay Tonne, TCEQ; and Walker Williamson, TCEQ

Ms. Lola Brown provided a presentation to the members discussing the HGB SIP and Associated Revisions for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone Standard Proposed at the September 23rd TCEQ Agenda. Highlights of the presentation include:

- a. HGB Attainment Demonstration SIP Revision and Associated Rule Revisions for the 1997 Eight-Hour ozone Standard

- b. Proposed HGB AD SIP Revision Overview
 - Key Elements of HGB AD SIP Revision
 - Timeline
 - Contact Information

- c. 2018 HGB AD SIP Revision Modeling and Weight of Evidence Corroborative Analyses
 - CAMx Ozone Modeling in SIP Development – The Big Picture
 - 2006 Baseline and 2018 Future Anthropogenic NOx Modeling Emissions HGB Eight-County Area
 - 2006 Baseline and 2018 Future Anthropogenic VOC Modeling Emissions HGB Eight-County Area
 - 2018 Future Modeling Results
 - Regulatory Monitoring Sites with $DV_{18S} \geq 85$ ppb
 - Reduction in Exceedance Area 2006 Baseline to 2018 Future, Compared to 2000
 - HECT and VMEP Sensitivity Modeling
 - Difference in Emissions Between 2018 Future Base and HECT Sensitivity
 - HECT and VMEP Sensitivity Modeling
 - Weight of Evidence Quantitative Corroborative Analysis
 - Ozone Design Values for the HGB Area
 - Map of Background Ozone Sites
 - Conclusions
 - Additional Air Quality Improvement Measures
 - 81st Texas Legislature, 2009
 - Contact Information

- d. Proposed Revisions to the Offset Lithographic Printing Rules in 30 TAC Chapter 115
 - Background Information
 - Offset Lithographic Printing
 - Contact Information

- e. Proposed Revisions to the MECT and HECT Rules in 30 TAC Chapter 101
 - NECT Rulemaking 2009
 - MECT Rulemaking Components
 - HECT Rulemaking 2009

- f. Rulemaking Overview
 - HECT Key Rule Components
 - HECT Sensitivity Modeling
 - HECT Reallocation Methodology Fundamentals
 - HECT Emission Event Set-Aside
 - HECT Available Cap
 - Uncontrolled Emissions Based Reallocation
 - Additional Provisions
 - Contact Information

- g. HFGB Reasonable Further Progress (RFP) SIP Revision for the 1997 Eight-Hour Ozone Standard
 - Proposed HGB RFP SIP Revision Overview
 - Proposed RFP Demonstration
 - Proposed RFP MVEBs

- Contact Information
- h. Public Comment Information
- How to Submit Comments
 - Web Addresses
2. **“Greater Houston Partnership’s Review of EPA’s Action on Texas Air Quality Permitting Rules” – Ms. Rebecca Hengstenberg, Baker Botts LLP**
Presentation rescheduled for RAQPC October 29, 2009 meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Elections of Officers

- a. Chair – Ms. Paulette Wolfson, City of Houston (Local Government)
 The action item was motioned, seconded, and all were in favor to approve the acceptance of Ms. Paulette Wolfson with the City of Houston being the Chair of the RAQPC committee with no discussion.
- b. Vice Chair – Ms. Beth Whitehead, Greater Houston Partnership (Business and Industry)
 The action item was motioned, seconded, and all were in favor to approve the acceptance of Ms. Beth Whitehead with the Greater Houston Partnership being the Vice Chair of the RAQPC committee with no discussion.

INFORMATION ITEM:

1. **Next Step of Subcommittee Projects and Updating Reference Guide – Mr. Matthew Tejada**
 TCEQ and H-GAC staff has been asked by RAQPC to develop a user friendly Air Quality Reference Guide to target general populations with one intergraded system. As part of the discussion, it was suggested to produce a subcommittee to execute the updating of the Air Quality Reference Guide. Craig Beskid was asked by the Chair to lead the subcommittee. Mr. Beskid needed to review his schedule before accepting the position.
2. **Possible Comment Opportunities – Mr. Ben Finley**
- a. Permission was requested to host a Policy Subcommittee meeting with the following agenda items:
- Comment on SIP Revisions (11/09/09)
 - Comments on CAFE and GHG Standards (11/27/09)
 - Comments on O₃ Standards Reconsideration (Informational)
 - EPA Nonattainment Boundaries Suggested (Informational)
- The information item was motioned, seconded, and all were in favor to approve the acceptance of hosting a Policy Subcommittee meeting with the above listed agenda items.
3. **H-GAC Update – Ms. Shelley Whitworth**
- a. H-GAC Board voted to receive the DERA SmartWay Grant which is a revolving loan fund in the amount of \$9,000,000.00 and an additional \$50,000.00 from the Port of Houston. H-GAC will assist Drayage Truck Operators with applying for the TERP and CMAC programs. Gap loans will be available for the balance cost of the project.
- b. H-GAC Board approved Brazoria County for \$99,991.00 of CMAC funds to replace two heavy duty diesel engines.
- c. H-GAC attorneys are currently revising forms to better safeguard the Clean Vehicle Program with the numerous sales of construction related vehicles outside of the region due to companies

going out of business. The Clean Vehicle Program is temporarily suspended with the exception of local governments.

- d. H-GAC had a DERA workshop at the Port of Houston, and the program is expected to move quickly as possible.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Acknowledgement:

Matthew Tejada was applauded for his contributions as past Chair of the RAQPC Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Upcoming Events:

- a. H-GAC Subregional Planning Initiative (SPI) Workshops (9/28/09 and 9/29/09)
- b. 2009 Clean Air Through Energy Efficiency Conference(CATEE): Impacts and Opportunities in Today's Economy (10/14/09 – 10/16/09)
- c. Hearing Date for SIP Revision (10/28/09)
- d. National Brownfield Conference (11/16/09 – 11/18/09)

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Suggestions for Next Meeting:

- a. Carryover Presentation “Greater Houston Partnership’s Review of EPA’s Action on Texas Air Quality Permitting Rules” – Ms. Rebecca Hengstenberg, Baker Botts LLP
- b. Carryover Updating the Air Quality Reference Guide – Ms. Paulette Wolfson
- c. Policy Committee Recommendations to the Board

2. The next RAQPC meeting is scheduled for October 29, 2009 at 2:00 P.M.

ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned at 3:52 P.M.