

# REGIONAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

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## MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, February 25, 2010  
H-GAC Conference Room A  
3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor  
Houston, Texas 77027

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Laura Blackburn

*Lily Wells (Alternate for Dana Blume)*

Patrick Buzbee

*Mike Lindsey (Alternate for Patrick Buzbee)*

Catarina Cron (Via Phone)

Dan Hoyt

Mark McClelland

Lisa McMichael

Stuart Mueller

*Bob All (Alternate for Patel Snehal)*

Edmond Petry (Via Phone)

Ron Schultz

Jeff Suggs (Via Phone)

Mathew Tejada (Via Phone)

*Rebecca Moring (Alternate for Marise Textor)*

*Charles Airihuodion (Alternate for Rakesh Tripathi)*

Paulette Wolfson

Danielle Lincoln (Alternate for Julie Woodard)

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Carl Young (EPA) (Via Phone)

Lola Brown (TCEQ) (Via Phone)

Diana Sullivan (TCEQ)

Shelley Whitworth (H-GAC)

Ben Finley (H-GAC)

Patricia Franco (H-GAC)

Crystal Spencer (H-GAC)

### **MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Craig Beskid

Lisa Chisholm

Elena Craft

Robert Lanham

Cynthia Redwine

Beth Whitehead

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

1. Ms. Paulette Wolfson officially called the meeting to order at 2:03 P.M.
2. Ms. Paulette Wolfson welcomed all people in attendance and then RAQPC Board Members and staff introduced themselves.
3. **Approval of the January 28, 2010 meeting summary.**
  - a. The January 28, 2010 meeting summary was approved and the following items were amendments:
    - Call to Order – 2. RAQPC Committee Members.
    - Regional Ozone Update – b. The 8-hour high for December 04, 2008 was 17.

### **AGENCY REPORTS:**

#### **1. EPA Update – Mr. Carl Young**

##### **a. EPA's Air Pollution Training Institute (APTI)**

EPA's APTI provides training on air pollution issues for professionals and others. The curriculum is available in classroom, tele-course, self-instruction, and web-based formats. The website for the APTI is:

<http://www.epa.gov/apti>.

From this site you can click on “On-Demand Video Training Materials” or “Self-Instructional Courses”. If you click on the video training materials there is a link for “Air Quality Planning for New Non-Attainment Areas”. This is useful for a basic understanding of the State Implementation Plans for air quality.

## 2. TCEQ Update – Ms. Lola Brown

### a. State Implementation Plan (SIP) Revisions

The Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) Attainment Demonstration and the Reasonable Further Progress State Implementation Plan revisions for the 1997 eight-hour ozone standard and the associated rule revisions, which are scheduled to be considered for adoption at a March 10, 2010, were filed with the Chief Clerk’s Office and posted on the TCEQ’s Web site on February 19, 2010.  
<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/sip/hgb.html>

### b. PM<sub>2.5</sub> Attainment

On February 4, 2010, the governor submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) a recommendation that Harris County remain designated as attainment for the 1997 annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard of 15 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m<sup>3</sup>). On January 20, 2010, the TCEQ sent certified quality-assured 2009 data for the three Harris County monitors to the EPA, which all report arithmetic means below 13 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.  
<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/sip/Hottop.html>

### c. Southeast Texas Photochemical Modeling Technical Committee

The January 26, 2010, Southeast Texas Photochemical Modeling Technical Committee meeting summary has been posted (*to the website listed below*). Subsequent to the meeting, the TCEQ staff has been compiling a list of technical projects relevant to the HGB area that could improve the modeling inputs and the modeling algorithms. The next meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2010 at H-GAC.  
[http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/airmod/committee/pmtc\\_set.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/airmod/committee/pmtc_set.html).

### d. Volatile Organic Compound

Two identical stakeholder meetings for the Chapter 115 volatile organic compound (VOC) degassing rule revisions (Rule Project No. 2009-036-115-EN) were held February 22 and 25, 2010, in Houston and in Austin. TCEQ Staff is accepting informal written comments on the information discussed at these stakeholder meetings until March 12, 2010. Information on how to submit comments is posted on the Chapter 115 Stakeholder Group Web page and the presentations from the meetings will also be posted on the Web page this week. The project manager is Eddy Lin, (512) 239-3932.  
[http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/rules/115/115\\_stakeholder](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/rules/115/115_stakeholder).

## 3. Regional Ozone Update – Ms. Diana Sullivan

(Please refer to handout.)

### a. 8 Hour Ozone Standards

The Houston area had 1 day of exceeding 8 hour ozone standard at the Katy Park regulatory stations. The Katy Park non-regulatory station reported 26 and all other non-regulatory stations reported 27. No days of exceeding were observed in the regulatory stations.

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

No presentations given.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

(Please refer to handout.)

### **1. Vote on Recommending H-GAC Board of Directors to Submit Comments on National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) – Ms. Paulette Wolfson**

(Please refer to handout.)

- a. Ms. Paulette Wolfson stated that Ms. Catarina Cron led an extraordinary committee and they met several times in the last couple of months to develop the comments.
- b. The floor was opened to further discussion and revisions were made per committee request to the comments, summary, and proposed letter for submittal.
- c. The action item to accept Recommending H-GAC Board of Directors to Submit Comments on National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) (O<sub>3</sub>) for Ozone was approved with fifteen in favor and two opposed.

### **2. Adoption of the Updated Air Quality Reference Guide – Ms. Laura Blackburn**

- a. The action item to adopt the Updated Air Quality Reference Guide was postponed until the next upcoming RAQPC meeting.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS:**

### **1. Review of Governor Perry's Response to the EPA's 2.5 Designation – Mr. Ben Finley**

(Please refer to handout.)

- a. Mr. Ben Finley informed the committee that TCEQ requested Governor Rick Perry to make a comment to the EPA saying that the 2009 data will be added to the three year average; therefore, the Houston area will be in attainment.

### **2. H-GAC Update – Ms. Shelley Whitworth**

- a. Ms. Shelley Whitworth mentioned that H-GAC Clean Vehicle Program for the local government and public sector has been continuing to operate. H-GAC called a halt with the private sector because of some auditing issues; now they are active again. Seven proposed projects were submitted to the H-GAC Board and one contract has been signed. The seven projects will replace 29 engines for a NO<sub>x</sub> reduction of 11.761 tpy.
- b. The Drayage Loan Program loan committee met and approved four different projects. Three of the four are small enough for approval without going through the H-GAC Board. The Drayage Loan Program project has a number of significantly large projects in the timeline.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

### **1. Acknowledgements**

- a. No public comments given.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### **1. Upcoming Events**

- a. No announcements given.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. The next RAQPC meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2010 at 2:00 P.M.**

## **ADJOURN:**