

# REGIONAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

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## MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, April 29, 2010  
H-GAC Conference Room A  
3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor  
Houston, Texas 77027

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Laura Blackburn

Dana Blume

Patrick Buzbee (Via Phone)

Lisa Chisholm (Via Phone)

Catarina Cron

Dan Hoyt

Robert Lanham

*Dale Kornegay (Alternate for Robert Lanham)*

Jim Lester

Mark McClelland

Lisa McMichael

Stuart Mueller

Snehal Patel

Edmond Petry (Via Phone)

Cynthia Redwine (Via Phone)

Ron Schultz

Jeff Suggs (Via Phone)

Mathew Tejada

*Rebecca G. Moring (Alternate for Marise Textor)*

Beth Whitehead

Paulette Wolfson

Julie Woodard

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Guy Donaldson (EPA) (Via Phone)

Carl Young (EPA) (Via Phone)

Lola Brown (TCEQ) (Via Phone)

Claudio Gulli (TCEQ)

Craig Smith (TCEQ)

Shelley Whitworth (H-GAC)

Allison Carr (H-GAC)

Crystal Spencer (H-GAC)

Lauren Hoff-Ovshak (H-GAC)

Patricia Franco (H-GAC)

Ben Finley (H-GAC)

### **MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Craig Beskid

Elena Craft

Melissa Hagan

Dawn Steph

Rakesh Tripathi

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

1. Ms. Paulette Wolfson officially called the meeting to order at 2:07 P.M.
2. Ms. Paulette Wolfson welcomed all people in attendance and then RAQPC Committee Members and staff introduced themselves.
3. Approval of the March 25, 2010 meeting summary.
  - a. The March 25, 2010 meeting summary was approved and the following item was amended:
    - Members Present – Ms. Lisa McMichael was present in attendance not via phone.

### **AGENCY REPORTS:**

1. TCEQ Update – Ms. Lola Brown
  - a. Motor Vehicle Idling Stakeholder Group

A new Motor Vehicle Idling Stakeholder Group has been formed. Meetings were held in April, in Austin and Arlington, to provide stakeholders with information about the Locally Enforced Motor Rule Revision Project and to solicit stakeholder input on related issues. More information

is available on the TCEQ's Vehicle Idling Restrictions web page:

<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/sip/vehicleidling.html>. Contact: Nina Castillo, Phone: 512-239-4415

b. Section 185 Termination Determination

The TCEQ is developing a Section 185 termination determination submittal to the United States Environmental Agency (EPA) for consideration which, if submitted, would request that the EPA determine a Section 185 fee program is not needed for the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) one-hour nonattainment area because the latest (2007 through 2009) ambient monitoring data indicates measured attainment of the 1997 eight-hour ozone standard and attainment is due to permanent and enforceable emission reductions. This Section 185 termination determination is tentatively scheduled for presentation at the commissioner's work session on May 14, 2010. The TCEQ held a meeting to discuss the proposed Section 185 termination determination request on April 28, 2010, in Houston. In addition, the TCEQ is requesting submission of written comments to the agency no later than the close of business April 30, 2010. The proposed Section 185 termination determination submittal document is available on the TCEQ's SIP Section 185 Fees web page: <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/industei/psei/sipsection185.html>. Contact: Kathy Pendleton, Phone: 512-239-1936

c. Highly Reactive Volatile Organic Compounds Emissions Cap and Trade

The allocation methodology for the Highly Reactive Volatile Organic Compound (HRVOC) Emissions Cap and Trade (HECT) Program has been revised as of April 1, and will impact the allocations starting with the 2011 calendar-year control period. To receive an HRVOC allocation, the owner or operator of a site that is subject to the HECT program must complete and submit the HECT program Baseline Emissions Certification Form ECT-6H to the TCEQ no later than July 1, 2010. The TCEQ will conduct a HRVOC stakeholder group meeting on May 14, 2010, at 2:00 p.m. at H-GAC to provide instructional training on properly completing the ECT-6H Form. Additional information is available on the TCEQ's Emissions Banking and Trading Applications and Guidance Forms web page: [http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/banking/air\\_banking\\_form.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/banking/air_banking_form.html). Contact: Luke Baine, Phone: 512-239-5856

d. Texas Clean School Bus Program

On March 31, 2010, the TCEQ began to accept applications for grants from the Texas Clean School Bus program. The Texas Clean School Bus program provides reimbursement to Texas school districts that install pollution-control devices on diesel school buses. The application deadline is May 31, 2010. Texas Clean School Bus Web page: <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/clean-vehicles/school-buses.html>. Program contact: Paul Munguia, Phone: 512-239-1477

e. Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP) Program

The TCEQ's Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP) Program is now accepting applications for the new Texas Clean Fleet Program (TCFP). The TCFP grants are available to owners of fleets of 100 or more vehicles operated in Texas, at least 25 of which are diesel-powered vehicles. Projects eligible for funding under this program must result in at least a 25 percent reduction of nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions. Grant applicants must commit to replace at least 25 diesel-powered vehicles with hybrid or alternative fuel vehicles. TCFP applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on June 30, 2010. TCFP application workshops will be held on May 6, 2010, in Austin; May 10, 2010, in Houston; and May 11, 2010, in Arlington. All workshops are free and no registration is required. Complete information on upcoming TCFP workshops as well as grant application forms and instructions are available on the TERP Web site: [www.terpgrants.org](http://www.terpgrants.org).

f. Southeast Texas Photochemical Modeling Committee (SETPMTC)

At the Southeast Texas Photochemical Modeling Committee (SETPMTC) meeting held on April 7, 2010, the TCEQ staff presented a status and preliminary results from two emissions inventory

improvement projects. The results from both these projects will be used in the next round of mid-course review and state implementation plan modeling. In addition, the TCEQ staff has compiled a list of technical projects for fiscal year 2010 relevant to the HGB area that could improve the modeling inputs and the modeling algorithms. SETPMTC meeting presentations are available on the committee Web site:

[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) Contact: Dick Karp, Phone: 512-239-1462

**2. EPA Update – Mr. Carl Young**

Mr. Young reserved time for the EPA presentation.

**3. Regional Ozone Update – Mr. Claudio Gulli, TCEQ Staff**

a. **8 Hour Ozone Standards**

The Houston-Galveston-Brazoria area had 2 days of exceeding 8-hour ozone standard at the regulatory stations, and an additional 1 day was observed at the non-regulatory station. The ozone days reported this month are the first exceedances in 2010.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**State Implementation Plan (SIP) Challenges for Houston – Mr. Guy Donaldson, EPA**

(Please refer to handout.)

**ACTION ITEMS**

(Please refer to handout.)

**1. Election of Officer**

- a. The action item to adopt the Vice Chair – Bob Lanham, Association of General Contractors (Business and Industry) was motioned, seconded, and approved.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**1. Update on the Air Quality Reference Guide – Ms. Laura Blackburn**

- a. Ms. Laura Blackburn informed the committee that the Air Quality Reference Guide is 71 pages and each paragraph has been significantly reviewed; the guide is near completion. Mr. Ben Finley and staff are compiling recommendations. The guide will have a final review, and then be forwarded to an editor. In conclusion, the guide will be ready in November 2010.

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

a. **Clean Vehicles Update**

- H-GAC Board of Directors approved one project under CMAQ funding through Clean Vehicle Program for replacing 1 Heavy Duty Vehicle at \$41,469, resulting in approximately 2.23 tons per year NOx reduction.

b. **DERA Loan Update**

- H-GAC Board of Directors approved one project under DERA Loan Project for replacing 5 Heavy Duty Diesel Vehicles at \$121,000.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**1. Acknowledgements**

- a. No public comments given.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**1. Upcoming Events**

- a. EPA set the CAFE standards on April 1, 2010
- b. TCEQ Public meeting at H-GAC on April 28, 2010, at 1:00 p.m.  
Discussion Item: Termination of Section 185 Fee Program for HGB area

- c. TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair and Conference at Austin on May 4 & 5, 2010
  - d. Sustainability Summit at Washington D.C. on May 24-26, 2010
  - e. Stakeholder Meeting at H-GAC on May 7, 2010
- Discussion Item: HUD Grant Program to Support Regional Planning

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **The next RAQPC meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2010 at 2:00 P.M.**

**ADJOURN:**

The RAQPC Meeting was adjourned at 3:06 P.M.