

REGIONAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, August 26, 2010
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)
Melissa Hagan (Via Phone)
Steve Hansen
Dan Hoyt
Robert Lanham

Lisa McMichael
Stuart Mueller
Edmond Petry
Cynthia Redwine
Bob Allen (Alternate for Michael Schaffer)
Ronnie Schultz
Matthew Tejada
Marise Textor
Charles Airiohuodion (Alternate for Rakesh Tripathi)

STAFF PRESENT:

Carl Young (EPA) (Via Phone)
Lola Brown (TCEQ)
Angela Kissel (TCEQ)
Claudio Gulli (TCEQ)

Shelley Whitworth (H-GAC)
Ben Finley (H-GAC)
Patricia Lawhorn (H-GAC)
Lauren Hoff-Ovshak (H-GAC)
Crystal Spencer (H-GAC)

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Aurturo Blanco
Lisa Chisholm
Elena Craft
Catarina Gonzales Cron

Jim Lester
Mark McClelland
Dawn Steph
Jeff Suggs
Julie Woodard

CALL TO ORDER:

- 1. Chairman Robert Lanham officially called the meeting to order at 2:04 P.M.**
- 2. Chairman Lanham welcomed all people in attendance.**
- 3. Approval of the July 29, 2010 meeting summary.**
 - a. The July 29, 2010 meeting summary was motioned, seconded, and approved with no amendment.

AGENCY REPORTS:

- 1. TCEQ Update – Ms. Lola Brown**
 - a. Clean Air Transport Rule
The EPA published the proposed Clean Air Transport Rule in the August 2, 2010, *Federal Register*. TCEQ Staff is currently reviewing the proposal. The TCEQ has requested that the EPA grant a 90-day extension of the public comment period and hold an additional public hearing for the proposed rule at a Texas location.
 - b. Revisions to Degassing Rules in 30 TAC Chapter 115
Public hearings on proposed revisions to the VOC degassing rules in 30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 115 (Rule Project No. 2009-036-115-EN) will be held in Austin on September 7, 2010; in

Houston on September 8, 2010, at 2:00 p.m. at the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC); and in Fort Worth on September 9, 2010. The comment period closes September 13, 2010. The contact for this project is Eddy Lin, Air Quality Division, at (512) 239-3932.

More information can be found on the www.tceq.state.tx.us/rules/prop.html#09050

c. Proposed new rules for Oil and Gas Facilities (Rule Project No. 2010-018-106-PR)

An informational public meeting on the TCEQ's proposed new rules for oil and gas facilities (Rule Project No. 2010-018-106-PR) will be held in Austin on August 31, 2010, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the TCEQ central office. This meeting is informational only, and is not part of the formal rulemaking or public comment process. Video teleconferencing (VTC) will be available at seven regional offices, including the Houston regional office. The meeting will also be webcast on the internet at www.texasadmin.com.

A formal public hearing on the proposed rules will be held in Austin on September 14, 2010.

The comment period closes September 17, 2010. More meeting information can be found on the www.tceq.state.tx.us/nav/advise/air_permitting_index.html, or interested parties can contact Beecher Cameron, Air Permits Division, at (512) 239-1276.

d. NO₂ Informational Meeting

An informational meeting on the new NO₂ standard will be held in Austin on September 16, 2010, at 10:30 a.m. at the TCEQ central office and VTC will be available in the regional offices where monitoring is expected, including Dallas-Fort Worth, HGB, Beaumont-Port Arthur, El Paso and San Antonio. Interested parties may sign up with Margaret Earnest via e-mail (mearnest@tceq.state.tx.us) to receive location details and the meeting presentation. Notification will be sent via "govdelivery". For more info, please see the www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/sip/texas-sip/criteria-pollutants/sip-no2

e. TERP Program Updates

- i. The TERP Program is now accepting applications for the New Technology Implementation Grant (NTIG) Program until 5:00 p.m. on September 17, 2010. Grant funds are available for electricity storage projects related to renewable energy. A grant application workshop has been scheduled for September 2, 2010, in Austin at TCEQ headquarters. The workshop is free and no registration is required. New grant application forms and workshop information are available on the <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/terp/>
- ii. The TERP Program also just closed a grant application period for the Emissions Reduction Incentive Grants (ERIG) Program. Over 1,050 applications were received. The agency expects to make the grant selection decisions by late November 2010. A list of the applicants will be available on the [TERP Web site](#) in the near future.
- iii. The TERP Third-Party Grant contract with H-GAC was amended to authorize funding for projects involving drayage trucks operating in or near port facilities. Changes were also made to allow grant-funded vehicles to operate for a percentage of use in other TERP-eligible areas.

f. Reconsideration of the 2008 Ground-level Ozone Standards

The EPA has indicated that the proposed 2010 ozone standards will not be finalized by August 31, 2010. Written comments on potential ozone nonattainment area boundaries and designations for the EPA's proposed 2010 ozone air quality standards will now be accepted until close of business November 8, 2010. For instructions on how to submit comments and updated information, please check the www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/aqps/eighthour.html

- g. Rescheduling of the HGB Reasonably Available Control Technology Update Meeting
The proposal agenda for HGB Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Update State Implementation Plan (SIP) Revision for the 1997 Eight-Hour Ozone Standard and the associated Chapter 115 VOC RACT Rule Revisions, which were included in the July update, has been tentatively rescheduled for June 8, 2011.

2. EPA Update – *Mr. Carl Young*

- a. Reconsideration of the 2008 Ground-level Ozone Standards
In 2008 EPA lowered the 8-hour ozone standard to 75 ppb. Then on January 19, 2010 EPA published the proposal to revise the primary and secondary ozone standards in the Federal Register. EPA proposed to strengthen the 8-hour “primary” ground-level ozone standard, which protects public health, at a level between 60 and 70 parts per billion (ppb). The Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee recommended these ranges. EPA also proposed to set a separate “secondary” standard to protect the environment, especially plants and trees.

EPA planned to make a final decision on the ozone standards by August 31. However, EPA now expects to finalize the standards on or about the end of October 2010. In conjunction with their final decision they plan to propose regulations for implementing the standards.

More information on the proposal can be found at www.epa.gov/groundlevelozone (click on regulatory actions).

- b. Proposals on Permitting Sources of Greenhouse Gas Emissions
On June 3, 2010 EPA published final regulations for permitting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from large stationary sources that are increasing GHG emissions. On August 12 EPA proposed two rules to implement the regulations in Texas and 12 other states.

In the first proposal, EPA proposes to find that Texas and the 12 other states need to revise their permitting regulations to cover GHG emission increases.

In the second proposal, EPA proposes a Federal Implementation Plan for States that are unable to revise their permitting regulations to address GHG emission increases.

Publication in the Federal Register will start a 30 day comment period. More information can be found at www.epa.gov/nsr (under announcements, click on “Proposed Rules on Clean Air Act permitting for GHG Emissions”).

- c. Clean Air Transport Rule Proposal
Last month Adina Wiley of EPA Region 6 discussed the Transport Rule proposal. It will help States address interstate transport of nitrogen oxide (NO_x) and sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions for the 1997 ozone standards and the 1997 and 2006 fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) standards. The proposal was in the Federal Register on Monday, August 2, starting a 60 day comment period.

EPA is proposing to include Texas in the rule for NO_x emissions contributing to ozone in Louisiana. Under the proposal a cap and trade program for NO_x emissions would begin in May 2012. EPA is taking comment on whether Texas should be included in the rule for PM_{2.5} emissions.

More information, including a fact sheet, briefing materials, maps and the Federal Register manuscript is available at www.epa.gov/airtransport.

3. Regional Ozone Update –*Mr. Claudio Gulli*

The Houston area had 6 days of exceeding 8-hour ozone standard at the regulatory stations and 8 days at the non-regulatory stations. The Houston area had an additional 4 days exceeding the 1-hour ozone standard.

PRESENTATIONS:

None

ACTION ITEMS

1. Vote on approval of the Air Quality Reference Guide

- a. The motion to accept the Air Quality Reference Guide (AQRG) without floor revisions to the document was motioned and seconded. The motion was withdrawn after much discussion.
- b. The motion to revise the AQRG to alter language regarding Effective Screen Levels (ESLs), the definition of “Nuisance”, and area sources was seconded, and unanimously approved.
- c. The motion to dedicate the AQRG to Jackie Lentz was seconded, and unanimously approved.
- d. The motion to vote on final approval of the AQRG during the meeting was seconded, unanimously approved.
- e. The motion to accept the cover picture of the AQRG was seconded, and unanimously approved.
- f. The motion to accept changes to the AQRG contact information as it becomes aware was seconded and amended to accept changes to the organizations and websites. The motion was disregarded due to editorial updates are automatic.
- g. The motion to send the AQRG back to subcommittee to address late comments was seconded and, with much discussion, approved.
- h. The motion to vote on the AQRG approval without floor revisions during the next RAQPC Meeting was seconded, and unanimously approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Air Permitting Subcommittee – *Ms. Dana Blume*

- a. The subcommittee drafted a letter to Mark Vickery and Richard Hyde regarding how new point source permits for facilities adjacent to a nonattainment area are considered. The drafted recommendation letter is very general, but satisfies the main point. Voting on the draft recommendation letter is scheduled for next month.
- b. Everyone is invited to attend the upcoming subcommittee meeting.

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

- a. CRADA
H-GAC received additional funds and an extension to the Cooperative Research and Development Agreement.
- b. Clean Cities/Clean Vehicles
Clean Cities/Clean Vehicles will help 5 entities replace 18 engines for a NOx reduction of 6.418 tpy.

c. H-GAC Board

H-GAC Board sent a comment to TCEQ requesting that the HGB nonattainment area continue as the current 8 counties.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No public comment given.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Upcoming Deadlines

- a. TCEQ's TERP New Technology Implementation Grant deadline is 5:00 P.M. on September 17, 2010.

- b. EPA proposes rules requiring air permitting for GHG emissions. There will be a 30 day commenting period after publication.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. The next RAQPC meeting is scheduled for September 30, 2010 at 2:00 P.M.**

ADJOURN:

The RAQPC Meeting was adjourned at 3:38 P.M.