

REGIONAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

Wednesday, January 31, 2007
H-GAC Conference Room A
3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor
Houston, Texas 77027

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Beth Whitehead, Brandt Mannchen, Dana Blume, Dale Kornegay, Frances Smith, Jed Anderson, Karl Peple, Paul Newman (for Bud Karachiwala), Bob Lanham, and Steve Kilpatrick

STAFF PRESENT:

Andrew DeCandis (H-GAC), Christine Smith (H-GAC), Crystal Spencer (H-GAC), Deanna Johnson (H-GAC), Graciela Lubertino (H-GAC), and Shelley Whitworth (H-GAC)

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Adam Smith, Catarina Cron, Craig Beskid, Dee Ann Haney, Delvin Dennis, Don Brandon, Edmund Petry, G. Michael White, Jeff Shuggs, Mark McClelland, Matthew Kuryla, and Ronald Schultz

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Dana Blume called the meeting to order and no introduction was given.

APPROVE MEETING SUMMARY

October 26, 2006 and December 7, 2006 RAQPC meeting summaries were not motioned or seconded due to low committee attendance.

AGENCY REPORTS:

TCEQ UPDATE –Rebecca Rentz

Ms. Rebecca Rentz began her update by announcing that the comment period for the SIP hearing held on Monday will close on February 12, 2007. She also announced that Kathy Singleton will replace Emily Barrett as the HGB SIP coordinator. Ms. Singleton has previously worked on the Beaumont-Port Arthur area. Ms. Barrett will be going to an environmental consulting firm in Austin, TX.

EPA UPDATE – Peggy Wade

No EPA update.

PRESENTATIONS:

Health Matters: The Human, Societal and Economic Costs of Regional Air Pollution – Winnie Hamilton, Baylor College of Medicine

Ms. Winnie Hamilton gave a presentation regarding the effects of air pollution on health. Brief questions and discussion followed the presentation. For further information please refer to handout.

The Texas On-Road Emissions Testing Program: An Overview – Jimmy Guckian, TCEQ

Mr. Jimmy Guckian gave a presentation regarding the Texas On-Road Vehicle Emissions Testing program. No questions or comments followed the presentation. For further information please refer to handout.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

H-GAC DIRECTION – Shelley Whitworth

Ms. Shelley Whitworth announced that the Transportation Policy Council met Jan. 18th and voted to submit comments off the current SIP revision, comments included the following: to complete the necessary model analyses to determine when attainment can be achieved; to consider additional control measures for further evaluation and public comment; to take all necessary steps to avoid imposition of economic sanctions by the EPA,

and to determine an appropriate reclassification category for the region based on air quality modeling and evaluation of additional control measures.

Ms. Whitworth stated that the HGAC board of directors canceled a meeting regarding a petition on control measures last month due to bad weather but will act on this petition at the next regular meeting in February.

POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT – Karl Pepple

Mr. Karl Pepple had nothing to report as a result of the cancellation of January's meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2007 at 3:00pm. The committee is open to anyone who wants to participate. Brief questions and comments followed the discussion.

BYLAWS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT – Dana Blume

The conference call was postponed and rescheduled for next week. Let Andrew know if you would like to be on the subcommittee.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Jed Anderson proposed to add another section titled "Action items" under "Information items" as an area to list 3 to 4 issues where consensus can be easily reached between business, government and environmental groups so that some sort of action can be taken by RAQPC.

Mr. Brandt Mannchen expressed concern that RAQPC has not commented on the proposed Houston-Galveston-Brazoria SIP.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No announcements available.

NEW BUSINESS:

PROPOSED ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTHS AGENDA:

No proposed items for next month agenda.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, February 28, 2007 starting at 1:30 P.M.

ADJOURN