



---

---

## ONSITE SEWAGE FACILITY SOURCES WORK GROUP MEETING

Meeting Notes  
May 12, 2009

- **Individuals Present**

Bryan Eastham (TCEQ)

- **H-GAC Staff Present**

Erin Livingston, Rachel Powers

- **Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions**

Rachel welcomed attendees, initiated self-introductions, and reviewed the agenda.

- **Discussion**

Rachel briefly reviewed the sticky dot exercise results from the March BIG meeting.

### ***GIS***

Authorized agents keep info about violations and permits. We can match the address info to get a general idea of OSSF locations. H-GAC is going to call the agents to get the info. Ronnie Hebert from TCEQ-Beaumont is the authorized agent for San Jacinto County. Some communities do not have internet access and so it will be tedious to obtain everything.

H-GAC is working to map OSSF locations, where they likely are and where it is known they exist. This will help to prioritize where to begin with OSSF activity implementation.

The TCEQ group could pretty much define where OSSF problems are located.

### ***Waste Hauling***

~50 beneficial use sites where WWTF sludge is used on agricultural sites.

~300 waste hauler companies

Waste haulers are supposed to report spills, not many have been reported. Only the major companies know they are supposed to call the TCEQ when a spill occurs.

Most counties do not require final copies of trip tickets to be sent back, too big of a burden, too many. The City of Houston and the City of Pasadena require they be sent back.



Most that are illegally dumping don't document anything. They don't want there to be a paper trail. Hard to prove that they are responsible. It is manpower intensive to gather enough evidence for an enforcement case.

Generators are supposed to get back the original trip ticket. They don't know this.

TCEQ has a list of about twelve haulers that get complaints most weeks. Haulers probably don't have that much of an impact in the big picture.

***General***

Where do people look for the best OSSF program? Texas and California are two of the best.

Texas Onsite Wastewater Research Council conducts statewide studies. They collect \$10 from each new permit to pay for the studies. The cost has been only \$10 for the last fourteen years. Maybe this could be raised in TMDL areas. TCEQ's permit fee for residential is \$210 so adding a few more dollars to the permit fee could be feasible. Most of the studies they have done in recent years have involved strength of wastewater and low-flow fixtures and how water quantity has decreased while loading has increased.

There will need to be homeowner education, but this is an uphill battle. Systems need to be maintained.

- **Wrap-up**

Next meeting date: No next meeting at this time. Maybe meet in late summer.