

REGIONAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, December 04, 2008
H-GAC Conference Room A
3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor
Houston, Texas 77027

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Charles Airiohuodion (Alternate-Phone), Jed Anderson, Dana Blume, Dan Holt, Bud Karachiwala, Robert Lanham, Mark McClelland (Alternate), Snehal Patel, Karl Pepple, Cynthia Redwine, Matthew Tejada, G. Michael White, Beth Whitehead, Paulette Wolfson, and Julie Woodard

STAFF PRESENT:

Kelli Angelone (H-GAC), Lola Brown (TCEQ-Phone), Connie Chao (H-GAC), Andrew DeCandis (H-GAC), Ben Finley (H-GAC), Steve Howard (H-GAC), Graciela Lubertino (H-GAC), Crystal Spencer (H-GAC), Mary Schuwerk (H-GAC), Diana Sullivan (TCEQ), Shelley Whitworth (H-GAC), and Carl Young (EPA-Phone)

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Craig Beskid, Rhonda Boyer, Elena Craft, Catarina Cron, Sarah Drailing, Dee Ann Haney, Matthew Kuryla, Robert Lanham, Larry Mann, Karl Pepple, Adam Smith, Jeff Suggs, and Mary Ellen Whitworth

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Matthew Tejada called the meeting to order and all members were welcomed for attending. Since the condition for quorum was not initially met, this was postponed until later in the meeting.

APPROVE MEETING SUMMARY

October 30, 2008 meeting summary was not approved due to comment revisions.

AGENCY REPORTS:

TCEQ UPDATE – *Matthew Tejada*

(Please refer to handout.) Ms. Lola Brown provided a printed TCEQ Update.

An HGB 8-Hour Ozone SIP Stakeholder Group meeting was held on November 03, 2008. The presentations, handouts, and meeting summary were posted on the TCEQ's website. TCEQ submitted the "Protocol for 8-Hour Ozone Modeling of the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria Area" to the EPA on November 26, 2008. The documents will be posted on the TCEQ's website. For further information, contact Dick Karp of the Air Modeling and Data Analysis Section at (512) 239.1462. The Southeast Texas Photochemical Modeling Committee met November 20, 2008. The presentations from that meeting have been posted on the TCEQ's website. TCEQ staff is working with airport/airline representatives to ensure there is accurate accounting of reductions from past Memorandums of Agreement and the current emissions inventory is accurate. The heavy duty vehicle idling restriction program continues to draw interest from local governments, though none have to date initiated an MOA with TCEQ. A Control Techniques Guidelines (aka, CTG Stakeholder Group) meeting will be held December 09, 2008, 2-4pm., at TCEQ in Austin to discuss the content of documents related to the EPA's Consumer and Commercial Products Guidelines and to seek stakeholder input. The meeting will be available via video teleconference in both the Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston regional offices. The CTG Stakeholder Group is an open-participation group. For additional information you may contact Lindley Anderson of the Air Quality Planning Section at (512) 239-0003 or visit the CTG Stakeholder Group webpage. The Executive Director's nonattainment area recommendation for the 2008 8-hour ozone standard will go before the commission at the December 10, 2008 agenda; up-to-date information is posted on the web.

EPA UPDATE – *Carl Young, EPA*

Mr. Carl Young began his update with a brief overview of: 1.) Revised National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Lead – Published revised Lead Standard on November 12, 2008 and the new standard is 0.15micrograms per

cubic meter over a 3 year period. There will be a 2-Hour Satellite Signal Webcast for state and local agencies on Tuesday, December 09, 2008, from 12:00p.m. to 2:00p.m., for more information please go to www.epa.gov/apti.com. 2.) Air Pollution Training Institute Website – There will be an Air Quality Seminar in October and a 2010 Ozone Standard Seminar in April. 3.) Houston-Galveston-Brazoria Ozone Data – Both TCEQ and EPA characterized the Hurricane Ike disaster as exceptional data. 4.) 1-Hour 1997 & 8-Hour Ozone Standard EPA Region 6 – EPA Region 6 is made up of Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. Mr. Young stated the ozone data indications for Baton Rouge, Beaumont-Port Arthur, Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston-Glaveston-Brazoria.

PRESENTATION:

OVERVIEW OF DRAFT STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN SHORT-LIST CONTROL MEASURES – *Chris Lindhjem, ENVIRON*

(Please refer to handout.) Ms. Shelley Whitworth began with a short review explaining the NOx and VOC. The NOx Emissions in the HGB Eight-County Non-Attainment Region: 2005 NOx Emissions Baseline total 600 tons per day and 2018 Future Modeling Emissions total 364 tons per day. VOC Emissions in the HGB Eight-County Non-Attainment Region: 2005 VOC Baseline Emissions total 992 tons per day and 2018 VOC Future Modeling Emissions total 1011 tons per day. The review included charts and studies.

(Please refer to handout.) Mr. Chris Lindhjem delivered his presentation “Overview of Draft State Implementation Plan Short-List Control Measures”. Mr. Lindhjem spoke on the Screen and Quality of Evaluation. Environ had the task of looking at a lot of 2018 control strategies and estimating how they would affect the area emissions. The scope of the project began with TCEQ and enlisted H-GAC to work with the stakeholders in developing a list of voluntary control strategies. Environ started with a list of suggestions that was put together in 2006. The 2018 plan is to only focus on voluntary measures that can be locally implemented. Environ looked at NOx and VOC control measure benefits for the 2018 timeframe. The charts displayed VOC and NOx inventory estimates. The VOC 2018 emission inventory was provided by TCEQ. The NOx emission inventory included construction equipment (yellow), large ocean equipment (red), harbor craft (blue), and locomotives (orange). Environ looked at fuel pricing measures, insurance and registration pricing based on mileage, alternate commuting options, inspection and maintenance, off-road control measures, and ocean going vessels. The presentation included a summary chart.

ACTION ITEMS:

DISCUSS AND APPROVE RESOLUTION TO THE H-GAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGARDING THE RAQPC POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE-APPROVED RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND BUSINESSES WITHIN THE HOUSTON REGION TO EXPLORE AND, IF POSSIBLE, IMPLEMENT THE BY-PRODUCT SYNERGY PROCESS WITH THEIR OPERATIONS – *Andrew DeCandis, H-GAC*

RAQPC members unanimously approved the recommendation to the H-GAC Board of Directors regarding the RAQPC Policy Subcommittee.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

H-GAC DIRECTION – *Shelley Whitworth, H-GAC*

Ms. Shelley Whitworth began H-GAC’s Direction by informing the committee that H-GAC is currently working on: 1.) RAQPC 2009 Meetings 2.) The November 2008 Board of Directors meeting acted on two Air Quality Implementation Projects-- the Board of Directors approved the Mall of the Main Land Pilot Transit Service and Galena Park ISD purchase of three busses. 3.) Trimac will be purchasing four LNG trucks and collaborating with Clean Energy to construct the first public liquid-natural gas refueling infrastructure within our region. 4.) The Board of Directors will be requested to act on Danbury ISD for the purchase of one bus and Tony Abrego Sand Company for the purchase of one truck. 5.) Commute Solutions staff is recommending the Pasadena Express Park and Ride as a pilot project.

POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT – *Karl Pepple, City of Houston*

Mr. Karl Pepple reported that the Policy Subcommittee will pickup business in early January 2009.

AIR QUALITY REPORT – Diana Sullivan, TCEQ

(Please refer to handout.) Ms. Diana Sullivan delivered the Houston Air Quality Report.

The 2008 Houston-Galveston-Brazoria non-attainment area consists of: >125 ppb 1 hour totals 3; >85 ppb 8-hour totals 12; and >75 ppb 8-hour totals 30.

- High >125 ppb, Value 138 ppb, Date 10/25 – City of Houston Park Place
- High >85 ppb, Value 106 ppb, Date 07/17 – Houston Aldine
- High >75 ppb

The 2008 California South Coast Air Basin consists of: >125 ppb 1 hour totals 25; >85 ppb 8-hour totals 79; and >75 ppb 8-hour totals 121.

- High >125 ppb, Value 176 ppb, Date 06/20
- High >85 ppb, Value 131 ppb, Date 08/2
- High >75ppb

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- No Public Comments announced.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- (CATTEE) Conference Clean Air through Energy Efficiency Conference – December 15-17, 2008 in Plano, Texas
- Gas State of the Air Breakfast – January 27, 2009 at the Junior League
- Hot Air Topics of Airways Management Association – January 12, 2009
- HBA Environmental Law Luncheon – December 09, 2009

NEW BUSINESS:

- The next RAQPC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 29, 2009 at 1:30 P.M.

ADJOURN

- If you have an item you wish to be added to the agenda for a future meeting, please e-mail Mary Schuwerk at mary.schuwerk@h-gac.com.