

REGIONAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, December 02, 2010 – 2:00P.M.

Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments

3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor, Room A, Houston, Texas 77027

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Craig Beskid (Via Phone)

Arturo Blanco

Dana Blume

Mike Lindsey (Alternate for Pat Buzbee)

Barbara Sprot (Via Phone) (Alternate for Lisa Chisholm)

Jennifer Powis (Alternate for Elena Craft)

Steven Hansen (Via Phone)

Dan Hoyt (Via Phone)

Robert Lanham

Mark McClelland

Stuart Mueller

Edmond J. Petry (Via Phone)

Ceil Price

Cynthia Redwine (Via Phone)

Ronnie Schultz

Michael Schaffer

Matthew Tejada

Rebecca G. Moring (Alternate for Marise Textor)

Rakesh Tripathi

STAFF PRESENT:

Carl Young (EPA) (Via Phone)

Lola Brown (TCEQ) (Via Phone)

Shelley Whitworth (H-GAC)

Ben Finley (H-GAC)

Crystal Spencer (H-GAC)

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Laura Blackburn

Catarina Gonzales-Cron

Melissa Hagan

David Knuckey

Jim Lester

Dawn Steph

Jeff Suggs

Julie Woodard

CALL TO ORDER:

1. **Chairman Robert Lanham officially called the meeting to order at 2:06 P.M.**

2. **Approval of the September 30, 2010 meeting summary**

a. The September 30, 2010 meeting summary was motioned, seconded, and approved with amendment.

i. Members Present – Ms. Lisa Chrisholm attended via phone

AGENCY REPORTS:

1. **TCEQ Update – Ms. Lola Brown**

a. Tax Relief for Pollution Control Rule

The Tax Relief for Pollution Control Rule (Rule Project Number 2009-050-017-EN) was adopted at the November 18th, 2010, commissioners' agenda. The rule adoption implements House Bill (HB) 3206/HB 3544 of the 81st Texas Legislative Session.

Additional information is available on the TCEQ's Adoptions Web page:

<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/rules/adopt.html#09050>

b. Control Techniques Guidelines Stakeholder Group

A Chapter 115 Control Techniques Guidelines (CTG) Stakeholder Group meeting was held on December 1, 2010, to provide stakeholders with information about the Chapter 115 Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) Reasonably Available Control Technology Rule Revision project and to solicit stakeholder input on potential revisions to 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 115, Subchapter E, Divisions 2 and 3 (Surface Coating Processes and Flexographic and Rotogravure Printing). Informal comments will be accepted until January 5, 2011.

Comments may be mailed to Frances Dowiak, MC 206, Air Quality Division, Chief Engineer's Office, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087; faxed to (512) 239-5687; or e-mailed to fdowiak@tceq.state.tx.us.

Additional information is available on the Chapter 115 Stakeholder Group Web page: http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/rules/115/115_stakeholder

c. Ozone Nonattainment Boundaries

The TCEQ's Air Quality Division has indefinitely extended the deadline on its invitation to provide comment on potential ozone nonattainment boundaries for the proposed United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2010 ozone air quality standards. The deadline to receive written comments on potential ozone nonattainment area boundaries will be set once the EPA issues the new standards. The deadline is expected to be about two or three weeks after the new standards are promulgated.

For additional information, please see the TCEQ's Web page on the EPA's 2010 proposed revisions to air quality standards:

<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/aqps/eighthour.html>

d. Nitrogen Dioxide Standard Designation

The 2010 nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) standard designation recommendation was approved by the commission at the November 18, 2010, commissioners' agenda. The commission's recommendation will be submitted to the governor for approval. The commission recommends an attainment designation for all areas of the state currently monitoring the one-hour NO₂ standard in Texas and an unclassifiable/attainment designation for all other areas in Texas. State designation recommendations are due from the governor to the EPA on January 22, 2011.

For more information, please see the NO₂ Web site:

<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/sip/texas-sip/criteria-pollutants/sip-no2>

e. New Website for Criteria Pollutants

For continuing updates on ozone, NO₂, and other National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), the TCEQ's Air Quality Division has new web pages on the six criteria pollutants: <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/sip/texas-sip/criteria-pollutants/criteria-pollutants>

f. Southeast Texas Photochemical Modeling Technical Committee

A Southeast Texas Photochemical Modeling Technical Committee (SETPMTC) meeting was held October 14, 2010. The next SETPMTC meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2010.

If you have any questions please contact Dick Karp (512) 239-1462 dkarp@tceq.state.tx.us.

Meeting presentations and summaries are available on the committee Web site:
http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/airmod/committee/pmtc_set.html

g. Air Emissions Fee Rulemaking Stakeholders Group

On December 10, 2010, the TCEQ's Air Quality will conduct a Title V Stakeholder Group: Air Emissions Fee Rulemaking meeting. The stakeholder meeting will be held in Austin at the TCEQ campus, Building E, Room 201 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Video teleconferencing will also be available at the Beaumont, Corpus Christi, Dallas/Fort Worth, and Houston regional offices.

The purpose of this meeting is to notify the regulated community and entities with a Title V permit of the pending rulemaking for the air emissions fee rule, 30 TAC Section 101.27. The air emissions fee rule is in the process of being revised to ensure adequate funds are generated to support the Title V program. Comments and suggestions will be received from the regulated community in response to this proposed rulemaking.

For more information, please contact Kathy Pendleton, Emissions Assessment Section, at (512) 239-1936, or send an e-mail to kpendlet@tceq.state.tx.us and put "Title V Stakeholder Air Emissions Fee Rulemaking" in the subject line.

h. Drive a Clean Machine

The Drive a Clean Machine program funded the following projects in the HGB area during fiscal year 2010:

- i. 3,198 repaired vehicles at a cost of \$1,767,181; and
- ii. 5,344 retired and replaced vehicles at a cost of \$16,047,550.

Since the start of the program on December 12, 2007, through August 31, 2010, the program funded the following projects in the HGB area:

- iii. 7,119 repaired vehicles; and
- iv. 16,495 retired and replaced vehicles at a cost of \$53,372,592.

2. EPA Update – Mr. Carl Young

a. Reconsideration of the 2008 Ground-level Ozone Standards

On November 1 EPA stated that it would need until December 31, 2010 to make a final decision reconsidering the 2008 ozone standard. When EPA makes the final decision they will also expect to propose an implementation rule. As more information becomes known EPA will provide it to H-GAC.

b. Designations for the Lead Ambient Air Quality Standards

EPA lowered NAAQS for lead to 0.15 micrograms of lead per cubic meter of air in October 2008. Last month EPA designated 16 areas in 11 states as "nonattainment" for the NAAQS for lead. In North Texas, the small area of Frisco, Texas in Collin County was designated nonattainment.

More information is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/leaddesignations/>.

- c. Proposal for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards and Fuel Efficiency Standards for Medium- and Heavy-Duty Engines and Vehicles
EPA published a proposal for standards to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and improve fuel efficiency of heavy-duty trucks and buses on November 30.

The proposal and other information can be found on the “regulations.gov” website:
<http://www.regulations.gov/search/Regs/home.html#home> (Docket EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0162)

or

<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange> (click on Regulatory Initiatives).

3. Regional Ozone Update –*Mr. Ben Finley*

- a. The Houston area had 7 days of exceeding 8-hour ozone standard at the regulatory stations and 8 days at the non-regulatory stations. The Houston area had 1 day exceeding the 1-hour ozone standard at non-regulatory stations.
- b. The Dallas-Fort Worth area did not exceed the 8-hour ozone standard, nor the 1-hour standard.
- c. The California South Coast area has had 3 days exceeding the 8-hour ozone standard. They did not exceed the 1-hour standard.

PRESENTATIONS:

No presentation given.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Vote on Approval of New Comment Letter to TCEQ Regarding Air Permits of Major Sources in Counties Neighboring the HGB Ozone Nonattainment Area

- a. Discussion presented explanations for the new letter; incorporate a water quality statement, and dismiss vagueness.
- b. The motion to decline with incorporating water quality comments into the letter was seconded and passed.
- c. The motion to accept the New Comment Letter Regarding Air Permits of Major Sources in Counties Neighboring the HGB Ozone Nonattainment Area was seconded, and unanimously approved with discussion and reorganization.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Update on the Air Quality Reference Guide – *Mr. Ben Finley*

- a. Staff reviewed the Air Quality Reference Guide and created an Executive Summary for submittal to H-GAC Board of Directors.
- b. Staff is researching the possibilities for transforming the Air Quality Reference Guide into a website where each section will have its own webpage.

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

- a. EPA recognized Mr. Robert Lanham and Williams Brothers at the Diesel Ten Conference for being proactive participants in the national arena.

b. Clean Cities/Clean Vehicles

H-GAC Board approved \$2,477,895 in funding to replace 27 engines for a NOx reduction of 14.223 tpy.

H-GAC Board approved funding for 3 school districts totaling 6 busses and Cherry Concrete in the purchase of 8 new trucks.

c. TERP

EPA Drayage Loan Program is moving forward with financing 14 trucks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No public comment given.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. December 15, 2010 – EPA Webcast Series (Part 2): Climate Change Adaptation for State and Local Governments
- b. December 31, 2010 – EPA should announce the New Ozone Standard

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **The next RAQPC meeting is scheduled for January 06, 2011 at 2:00 P.M.**

ADJOURN:

The RAQPC Meeting was adjourned at 3:28 P.M.