

REGIONAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, April 28, 2011 – 2:00 P.M.
Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments
3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor, Room A, Houston, Texas 77027

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Allen	<i>Snehal Patel (Alternate for Harris County)</i>
Laura Blackburn	Edmond J. Petry (Via Phone)
Dana Blume	Ceil Price
Pat Buzbee (Via Phone)	<i>Paulette Wolfson (Alternate for Cynthia Redwine)</i>
Lisa Chisholm (Via Phone)	Ronnie Schultz (Via Phone)
Elena Craft (Via Phone)	Dawn Steph (Via Phone)
<i>Beth Whitehead (Alternate for Steven Hansen)</i>	Matthew Tejada (Via Phone)
Robert Lanham	Marise Textor
Stuart Mueller	Julie Woodard

STAFF PRESENT:

Carl Young (EPA) (Via Phone)	Allison Carr (H-GAC)
Lola Brown (TCEQ) (Via Phone)	Crystal Thomas (H-GAC)
Shelley Whitworth (H-GAC)	Ben Finley (H-GAC)

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Craig Beskid	Mark McClelland
Arturo Blanco	Ron Sandberg
Melissa Hagan	Jeff Suggs
Jim Lester	Rakesh Tripathi

CALL TO ORDER:

1. Chairman Robert Lanham officially called the meeting to order at 2:05 P.M.
2. Chairman Robert Lanham welcomed all people in attendance.
3. Approval of the March 31, 2011 meeting summary.
 - a. The March 31, 2011 meeting summary was motioned, seconded, and approved with amendment.
 - i. Members Present – Bob Allen did not attend.

AGENCY REPORTS:

1. TCEQ Update – Ms. Lola Brown
 - a. TCEQ Commissioners' Actions
 - i. *Lead Transport Plan* - On April 6, 2011, the commission approved proposal of the Lead Transport Plan for the 2008 Lead National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). A public hearing on this state implementation plan (SIP) revision will be held in Austin on May 17, 2011, and the public comment period will close on May 23, 2011.

Contact Shelley Naik for further information, (512) 239-1536,
Shelley.Naik@tceq.texas.gov.

- ii. *General Conformity Rule Repeal* - On April 20, 2011, the commission approved proposal of the General Conformity Rule Repeal (Project No. 2010-047-101-EN) and the General Conformity SIP Revision (Project No. 2011-002-SIP-NR). A public hearing is scheduled on May 31, 2011, in Austin and the comment period closes June 6, 2011.

Contact Amy Muttoni for further information, (512) 239-6351, Amy.Muttoni@tceq.texas.gov. Also, further information is available on the [What's New in TCEQ Rules Web page](#) and the [Commissioners' Agendas Web page](#) under [04-20-11](#), Item No. 99.

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/rules/whatsnew.html>

http://www.tceq.texas.gov/agency/agendas/comm/comm_agendas.html

http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/comm_exec/agendas/comm/current/2011/110420.pdf

- iii. *Area Designation for 2010 One-Hour SO₂ NAAQS*- On April 20, 2011, the commission approved Texas area designation recommendations for the 2010 one-hour sulfur dioxide primary NAAQS that include a nonattainment designation for Jefferson County; attainment designations for Dallas, Ellis, Kaufman, El Paso, Galveston, Harris, Gregg, McLennan, and Nueces counties; and all other Texas counties identified as unclassifiable at this time. The recommendations will be sent to the governor for his consideration, and then submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by the June 2, 2011, due date.

For further information, contact Mary Ann Cook, (512) 239-6739, MaryAnn.Cook@tceq.texas.gov. Also, more information is available on the Air Pollution from Sulfur Dioxide Web page:

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/implementation/air/sip/texas-sip/criteria-pollutants/sip-so2>

b. Commissioners' June 8 Agenda

- i. *Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Analysis Update SIP Revision (Project No. 2010-028-SIP-NR)* - This revision focuses specifically on the seven Control Techniques Guidelines (CTG) documents issued by the EPA from 2006 through 2008 that have not been addressed in the HGB attainment demonstration SIP revision adopted March 10, 2010.

For further information, contact: Lola Brown, (512) 239-0348, Lola.Brown@tceq.texas.gov.

- ii. *Chapter 115 Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) RACT Rule Revisions (Rule Project No. 2010-016-115-EN)*. - The proposed rulemaking would implement RACT for flexible package printing; industrial cleaning solvents; large appliance coatings; metal furniture coatings; paper, film, and foil coatings; miscellaneous industrial adhesives; and miscellaneous metal and plastic parts coatings in the HGB area.

For further information, contact: Francis Dowiak, (512) 239-3931, Francis.Dowiak@tceq.texas.gov.

- iii. *Chapter 115 VOC Storage Rule Revision (Rule Project No. 2010-025-115-EN) -* Revisions applicable in the HGB area would: specify design, operation, and monitoring requirements for vapor recovery units and currently unlisted control devices; require flares to meet federal design and operational requirements and to be lit when receiving vapors; require a design or control efficiency demonstration for certain control devices currently required to maintain 90% VOC reduction; and clarify what maintenance or inspection operations qualify for allowed floating roof landings, limit the allowed time, and minimize the VOC emissions.

For further information, contact Dr. Bob Gifford, (512) 239-3149, Bob.Gifford@tceq.texas.gov.

- c. Flare Task Force
The TCEQ's Comprehensive Flare Study Final Report Schedule is now available on the Flare Task Force Stakeholder Group Web page:
http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/airquality/point-source/stationary-rules/flare_stakeholder.html
- d. Southeast Texas Photochemical Modeling Technical Committee
Presentations and a brief summary of the April 13, 2011, Southeast Texas Photochemical Modeling Technical Committee (SETPMTC) meeting are available on the SETPMTC Web page: http://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/airmod/committee/pmtc_set.html. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 29, 2011.

For further information, contact: Dick Karp, (512) 239-1462, Dick.Karp@tceq.texas.gov.

- e. Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP) Program
TCEQ is accepting applications for the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP) Rebate Grants Program. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on July 29, 2011, or until all funding is distributed.

However, grant awards may need to be held, pending final decisions by the Texas Legislature regarding adjustments to agency budgets for this fiscal year. Applicants should not make purchasing decisions based on the "expectation" of receiving a grant.

Further information and application forms are available on the TERP Web page: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/terp>

2. EPA Update – Mr. Carl Young

- a. Proposal to Disapprove a Portion of a Texas State Implementation Plan (SIP)
On April 13 EPA published a Federal Register notice proposing to disapprove a portion of a Texas SIP submittal that addresses the Clean Air Act requirement prohibiting a state's emissions from significantly contributing to nonattainment or interfering with maintenance of the 2006 PM_{2.5} ambient air quality standards. Earlier this year, EPA proposed similar actions for 11 other States.

Thier reason for proposing disapproval is that there was no analysis that emissions from the state do not contribute to nonattainment or interfere with maintenance in another state. Instead, reference was made to the SIP for the now remanded Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR). The CAIR modeling, however, did not address the 2006 PM_{2.5} standards and CAIR was promulgated before the 2006 PM_{2.5} standards.

Disapproval of the Texas submittal will not start a sanctions clock. However, disapproval initiates an obligation for EPA to promulgate a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) for Texas to address interstate transport of emissions for the 2006 PM_{2.5} standard. In the August 2, 2010, Transport Rule proposal EPA took comment on whether they should include Texas in a FIP for PM_{2.5}.

This means that EPA may choose to include a FIP for Texas in the final Transport Rule.

The proposal, along with ways to comment on our proposal can be found at: www.regulations.gov (electronic docket EPA-R06-OAR-2011-0335).

- b. Results of Air Toxics Monitoring at the Young Scholars Academy in Houston
EPA announced that the results of air monitoring data at the Young Scholars Academy in Houston found exposures to benzene or other air toxics were below levels of concern.

The school was selected for monitoring because of its close proximity to a mix of industries, cars, trucks, buses and other sources. From September 16 through December 15, 2009, air monitors collected air samples at the school for benzene, 1,3-butadiene and other volatile organic compounds. Once the monitoring was complete, EPA analyzed the results to see if there was a concern from short or long-term exposures.

The Schools Air Toxics Monitoring Initiative, which monitored outdoor air at 63 schools in 22 states, is designed to help us and state environmental agencies understand whether long-term exposure to air toxics poses health concerns for children and staff at the schools.

More information is available at: www.epa.gov/schoolair/schools.html.

- c. Designations Guidance for the new 1-hour Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) Standard
In June 2010 EPA issued a new 1-hour SO₂ primary (human health) ambient air quality standard of 75 parts per billion (ppb). EPA recently completed designations guidance for the new standard. The guidance also discusses using air quality modeling to inform SO₂ designation decisions. The guidance is available at: www.epa.gov/air/sulfurdioxide/guidance.html

EPA is expecting designation recommendations from States no later than June 2011. EPA plans to make area designations of “nonattainment”, “attainment” or “unclassifiable” no later than June 2012. EPA plans to use both monitoring and air quality modeling in making our designation decisions.

- d. Proposal for Air Toxic Emissions Standards for Polyvinyl Chloride Production Facilities
Last week EPA announced a proposal to require toxic emission reductions from facilities that produce polyvinyl chloride (PVC). These facilities manufacture PVC resins that are used to make a large number of commercial and industrial products at other manufacturing facilities. These products include latex paints, coatings, adhesives, clear plastics, rigid plastics, and flooring. There are 17 PVC production facilities throughout the United States, with a majority of these facilities located in Louisiana (six) and Texas (four). The proposed rule would set emission limits and work practice standards for total

organic air toxics, and also for three specific air toxics: vinyl chloride, hydrogen chloride, and chlorinated di-benzo dioxins and furans

EPA will be accepting comment on the proposal for 60 days after publication in the Federal Register. EPA will also hold two public hearings in the Houston and Baton Rouge areas. Information on the hearings will be available later.

A fact sheet on the proposal can be found at: www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3fs.html.

A copy of the signed proposal can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3pfpr.html>.

e. Proposed Rules for Power Plants

EPA previously proposed a rule to control mercury and other toxic air emissions from power plants that burn coal or oil. This proposed rule would replace the Clean Air Mercury Rule which was vacated by the courts. The proposal would reduce emissions of heavy metals, including mercury, arsenic, chromium, and nickel, and acid gases, including hydrogen chloride and hydrogen fluoride. Additionally, EPA is proposing to revise the standards of new power plants that burn coal, oil or natural gas must meet for particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides. EPA expects that the proposal will be published in the May 3 Federal Register. Publication in the Federal Register will start a 60 day comment period.

More information is available at: www.epa.gov/airquality/powerplanttoxics.

3. Regional Ozone Update – Mr. Ben Finley

- a. The HGB area has had 3 days of exceeding 8-hour ozone standard at the regulatory stations on March 31st, April 11th and 12th. It has had 1 day exceeding the 1-hour ozone standard at a non-regulatory station on April 25th.
- b. The Dallas-Fort Worth area has had 1 day of exceeding 8-hour ozone standards at a regulatory station.
- c. California area has not exceeded the 8-hour and 1-hour ozone standards.

4. Legislative Update – Mr. Ben Finley

- a. RAQPC is tracking the process of the following Legislature Bills movements:
 - i. HB 571 / SB 160 (Huberty) – Aggregate Production has passed both House and Senate and is currently in the reconciliation stage as of April 21, 2011.
 - ii. HB 1145 / SB 527 (Geren) – Projects Funded through TERP has passed the House and Senate as of April 21, 2011.
 - iii. HB 630 (Pickett) – Environmental Review has passed the House.
 - iv. HB 2694 / SB657 – TCEQ Sunset Legislation has passed the House and referred to Senate Natural Resources on April 27, 2011.
- b. The following Legislature Bills will added to RAQPC’s tracking list:
 - i. Sunset Bill
 - ii. HB 1 / SB 1

PRESENTATIONS:

None

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Vote on Approval of Comment on Revises New Performance Standards (NSPS) on Electrical Utility Steam Generating Units (EGU)

- a. The action to accept the Comment on Revises New Performance Standards (NSPS) on Electrical Utility Steam Generating Units (EGU) was tabled due to verbiage and content revisions.
- b. Mr. Ben Finley will incorporate comments to the existing letter and distribute the final letter to the committee members for review. Action to approve the final letter will take place at the next RAQPC meeting.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Idle Reduction Taskforce Update – Ms. Dana Blume

- a. The Idle Reduction Taskforce objectives are as follows:
 - i. Produce one regional policy with one consistent-concise message about idling. The regional policy title will be “Idling Policy”.
 - ii. Focus mainly on trucks and school buses for the reason of higher polluting levels.
 - iii. Associated partners will consist of cities, counties, school districts, and ports.
 - iv. Draft Resolution composed jointly between RAQPC and TPC, and then submitted to H-GAC Board for approval.
 - v. All entities and their industry affiliates are aware and understand the policies and procedures within the region.
 - vi. The benefits and focus is health, cleaner air, and economics.

2. RAQPC Nominations – Mr. Ben Finley

- a. RAQPC 2011 committee members’ terms will soon expire. H-GAC will be issuing nomination request to the individuals that were nominated in the past. The following actions are forthcoming:
 - i. The Local Government Sector has decided on one executive officer and they are currently waiting for a second prospect to come forth.
 - ii. The Business and Industry Sector has a RAQPC Membership open.
 - iii. Each sector elects their two executive officers.
 - iv. Mr. Ben Finley will distribute a list of the current executive officers per sector.
 - v. Voting on the executive officer positions will occur in May and the installation of positions will be in June.

3. H-GAC Update – Ms. Shelley Whitworth

a. H-GAC Board

- i. H-GAC Board approved \$800,898 various funding to replace 13 diesel engines for a NO_x reduction of 8.07 tpy.
- ii. H-GAC Board approved to select a consultant for AVL services for Drayage Truck Programs.
- iii. H-GAC Board approved to enter into an “umbrella” contract with TCEQ.
- iv. H-GAC Board approved to enter into contract with NuRide, Inc.
- v. H-GAC Board approved to seek and enter into contract for Commuter and Transit Service Pilot Project Services.

b. H-GAC Air Quality Programs

- i. April 08, 2011 – “Fresh Air Friday” Event generated 2,500 Attendees
- ii. April 13, 2011 – “Electric Vehicles” Workshop accrued 35 Attendees
- iii. April 16, 2011 – “Truck Fair” collected 50-60 applications and 150 Attendees
- iv. April 27, 2011 – “Biodiesel” Workshop accrued 40 Attendees
- v. Several Series – “Regional Good Movement” Workshops and Public Meetings
- vi. May 02, 2011 – “Ethanol Safety” Workshop
- vii. May 11, 2011 – “Gulf Coast Human Resources” Symposium

c. H-GAC Clean Vehicles

- i. The Environ contract is in place and active. H-GAC and Environ will begin with reviewing their control strategies with respect to mobile sources; ozone impacts and multi-pollutants tracking.
- ii. H-GAC has been meeting with the Port of Houston, TCEQ, and EPA regarding the CRADA study second phase for the Drayage Trucks. The second phase work-scope should be completed within the next few weeks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. May 21, 2011 – Fight for Air Climb at the First City Tower (www.fightforairclimb.org)

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The next RAQPC meeting is scheduled for May 26, 2011 at 2:00 P.M.

ADJOURN:

The RAQPC Meeting was adjourned at 3:35 P.M.