



**Coordination & Policy Work Group  
Meeting Agenda  
Monday, September 25, 2017  
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM  
H-GAC Conference Room C, Second Floor**

**Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions**

**Review: 3/6/2017 Meeting Summary**

**2017 Annual Report**

Work group will be given copies of the draft 2017 Annual Report. Work group will review and discuss the draft annual report.

**TCEQ Implementation Letter**

Work group will review the latest version of the TCEQ implementation letter.

**Draft Fall Meeting Agenda**

Work group will review the draft Fall Meeting Agenda.

**Announcements/Adjourn**

**Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

10/31/2017 BIG Fall Meeting (1:00 PM)

***Instructions to call into BIG meetings:***

*To call in, dial 713-481-0090 (or 800-240-3895). You will be asked to enter your pass code, followed by the # sign. The pass code is 1084242. If you dial in before H-GAC, you will hear "music on hold". Once H-GAC dials in, the music will cease and the conference call will begin. During the conference, you may hear beeps. A single beep indicates someone has joined the conference call. A double beep indicates someone has left the conference call. Remember--if you do press hold, everyone will hear your hold music.*

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, H-GAC provides for reasonable accommodation for persons attending H-GAC functions. Requests should be received by H-GAC 24 hours prior to the function.*





BACTERIA IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

**Coordination & Policy Work Group  
Draft Meeting Summary  
Monday, October 11, 2016  
1:30 PM to 3:30 PM  
H-GAC Conference Room A, Second Floor**

**Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions**

Camila Biaggi (Harris Co.), Richard Chapin (COH), Danielle Cioce (HC), Denise Ehrlich (GCWDA), Nate Johnson (GBF), Michael Lindsey (Montgomery Co.), Linda Pechacek (Public), Jim Robertson (CCFCC), Linda Shead (Texas Coastal Partners), Brian Shmaefsky (Lone Star College), Shane Simpson (SJRA), Robert Snoza (HCFCD)

**Review: 10/11/2016 Meeting Summary**

The work group reviewed the meeting summary and did not propose any changes.

**2016 Annual Report**

Work group will be given copies of the 2016 Annual Report. Work group will discuss the annual report process, discuss what is working and opportunities for change.

The work group reviewed the Annual Report. The work group was provided the opportunity to discuss ways to improve the document. The work group is interested in a document that clearly tracks changes over time; can distinguish differences between reporting years; highlights new ideas or actions; and why actions are not on schedule. If report is created online, the work group wants an Executive Summary that presents a status update and highlights key points and changes since last report or 'what is new'.

**TCEQ Implementation Letter**

Work group will complete review of the TCEQ implementation letter.

The work group reviewed the draft implementation letter. The changes request included defining the implementation plan, stating the implementation actions, clearly noting the specific asks for TCEQ, and seeking a time-line for a response.

**BIG Implementation Funding**

Review and discuss the current state of implementation funding.

The work group discussed the current H-GAC budget and was asked to consider future BIG facilitation should funding for H-GAC be discontinued. H-GAC provided the work group with the current project budget. H-GAC reviewed the budget and discussed what H-GAC provides to the BIG in terms of meeting facilitation, data analysis and limited implementation and grant writing. Implementation has included the Top 5/Least 5, Low Impact Development and coordination with Clean Waters Initiative workshops. The work group was provided the Plum Creek Watershed funding structure for review. Discussed the potential for local funding and the opportunity to demonstrate cost sharing with the state. H-GAC noted that the group is currently in the fourth year of implementation. H-GAC anticipates the during the 5<sup>th</sup> year, the focus will be

on review and revisions to the I-Plan. It might be a good time to consider a plan funding structure during the revision.

### **2017 Reporting and Spring Meeting**

Discuss meeting schedule, reporting options, preparing for I-Plan review and open topic for general discussion.

The work group reviewed the 2017 Annual Report time-line and plan work group meeting schedule. The plan work groups will discuss opportunities to improve the document. The work groups will focus on highlighting progress and ways to move actions from behind to on schedule.

### **Announcements/Adjourn**

#### **Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

5/23/2017	BIG Spring Meeting (1:00 PM)
3/7/2017	WWTF and SSS Work Group (10:00 AM)
3/20/2017	Stormwater and Construction Work Group (1:00 PM)
3/23/2017	OSSF and Illicit Discharge Work Group (1:00 PM)
3/28/2017	Animals, Agriculture and Outreach Work Group (1:00 PM-Location offsite)
4/3/2017	Monitoring and Research Work Group (1:00 PM)

September 25, 2017

Mr. Chris Loft, Program Lead  
Total Maximum Daily Load Program  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
MC-203  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Subject: TCEQ Implementation of the Implementation Plan for Seventy-Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria in the Houston-Galveston Region (I-Plan).

Dear Mr. Loft,

The Houston-Galveston Area Council, on behalf of the Bacteria Implementation Group (BIG), is writing this letter to request information from the TCEQ in support of actions taken to implement the I-Plan. The BIG notes appreciatively, that staff at TCEQ's Region 12 Office have contributed greatly toward documenting TCEQ's implementation efforts and assisting development of the annual reports.

The BIG created the I-Plan to address bacteria impairments and improve water quality in the region. The I-Plan was approved by the Commission on January 30, 2013. A copy of the I-Plan can be found at: <http://www.h-gac.com/community/water/tmdl/BIG/reports.aspx>. As part of the I-Plan, stakeholders are required to draft an annual report that:

- chronicles partner projects carried out during the year which implement plan actions,
- highlight successful or impactful projects,
- determine if stakeholder efforts are meeting plan goals, and
- document any environmental improvement.

The 2016 Annual Report can be found at: [http://www.h-gac.com/community/water/tmdl/BIG/documents/AnnualReports/2016\\_BIG\\_Annual\\_Report.pdf](http://www.h-gac.com/community/water/tmdl/BIG/documents/AnnualReports/2016_BIG_Annual_Report.pdf).

The BIG requests TCEQ provide the current status of the I-Plan strategies that directly reference TCEQ, and any data that can assist tracking other I-Plan areas where TCEQ might have additional

information. Enclosed with this letter is a list of I-Plan actions that specifically reference TCEQ and for which the BIG lacks information.

The BIG respectfully requests a written response to the steps TCEQ will take address this information request within the next thirty (30) days. Thank you for the opportunity to work together on improving water quality in the greater Houston area. Please contact me, should you need any follow up information or have any questions, at [todd.running@h-gac.com](mailto:todd.running@h-gac.com) or 713.993.4549.

Sincerely,

Todd Running  
Water Resources Program Manager  
Community and Environmental Planning  
Houston-Galveston Area Council

Cc: Members of the BIG  
Jason Leifester  
Lauren Oertel

Enclosure

## BIG I-PLAN STRATEGIES REFERENCING TCEQ

The BIG is specifically interested in the following:

- **I-Plan Activity 1.1: Impose More Rigorous Bacteria Monitoring Requirements.** The BIG proposed in the I-Plan monitoring at wastewater treatment facilities (WWTFs) at greater frequency than current state permit requirements. The BIG has found since the approval of the I-Plan that the increased monitoring frequency at larger permitted flow WWTFs has helped improve plant function.

*The BIG requests that TCEQ increase the monitoring frequency at the smaller permitted flow WWTFs (<10 MGD) within the BIG project area (see Table 6, page 52).*

- **I-Plan Activity 1.3: Increase Compliance and Enforcement by the TCEQ.** Activity 1.3 on page 54, Increase Compliance and Enforcement recommends increasing 'no notice' inspections, allowing TCEQ to utilize focused sampling investigations, and to increase staffing if necessary. The Regional Office has reported that TCEQ has not approved focused sampling investigation.

*The BIG requests any information on implementation efforts or data that addresses increased compliance and enforcement by the TCEQ.*

- **I-Plan Activity 2.5: Strengthen Controls on Subscriber Systems.** Activity 2.5 found on page 62 recommends identifying subscriber systems and recommends the TCEQ consider rulemaking to require registration of subscriber systems. Sanitary sewer overflows have been identified as a contributor to the bacteria concentrations in the project area.

*The BIG requests any information on implementation efforts or data that strengthens controls on subscriber systems.*

- **I-Plan Activity 4.6: Petition the TCEQ to Facilitate Reimbursement of Bacteria Reduction Measures.** Activity 4.6 on page 75, directs the BIG to petition TCEQ to secure letters of commitment from TCEQ that describe the development policies and criteria that facilitate reimbursement for bacteria reduction measures.

The BIG is concerned that the lack of a specific policy to facilitate MUD reimbursement to developers providing stormwater quality structures (i.e. Low Impact Development, Green Infrastructure) creates funding uncertainty and inhibits their broader use due to the risk-adverse development process.

*The BIG requests the TCEQ release a guidance document that includes criteria that will assist in determining the eligibility of a stormwater quality feature for reimbursement.*







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## **SPRING MEETING**

### **Agenda**

**Tuesday, May 23, 2017**

**1:00 pm to 3:00 pm**

**H-GAC Conference Room B, Second Floor  
3555 Timmons Lane**

**Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions**

**Certification of Quorum**

**Approval of the Proposed Members & Alternates**

**Approval of the May 23, 2017 Meeting Summary**

**Public Comment**

**Item 1: Review 2017 Draft Annual Report**

**Item 2: TCEQ TMDL Program Update**

**Item 3: Draft Letter to the TCEQ**

**Item 4: Presentations**

- TXDOT MS4 General Permit
- Satellite Image Process Monitoring,
  - Below is the web link and dial in number for the Satelytics web meeting:
  - **Houston Region Bacteria Implementation Group/Satelytics Web Meeting**  
Tue, Oct 31, 2017 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT  
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.  
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/497860053>  
You can also dial in using your phone.  
United States: +1 (571) 317-3112  
Access Code: 497-860-053  
First GoToMeeting? Try a test session: <http://link.gotomeeting.com/email-welcome>

**Item 5: Other Business/Roundtable**

As time permits, H-GAC, BIG members, and stakeholders are encouraged to discuss implementation activities, related projects, and announcements.

**Next Meeting Date**

May 22, 2019

**Adjourn**

DRAFT