

# Summary of 10<sup>th</sup> Semiannual EAC Progress Report

## Prepared on behalf of the Austin-Round Rock MSA Clean Air Coalition by:

The Capital Area Council of Governments in coordination with the Early Action Compact Task Force  
and the CLEAN AIR Force

### Overview

- This progress report is intended to fulfill the Austin-Round Rock MSA EAC commitment  
Reporting period: May 1 to December 31, 2007
- Submit to EPA and TCEQ by Dec 31st 2007
- The following state measures continued to be at the center of implementation efforts over the past six months
  - I&M Program
  - Heavy Duty Vehicle Idling Restriction Program
  - TERP
    - Total of 2.36 tons per day NO<sub>x</sub> reductions by 2009
- This report focuses on control strategy implementation status, ozone monitoring and other technical analysis work, continuing outreach efforts, and future planning goals
- EAC continued planning efforts focused on the impacts of emissions from new coal-fired power plants
- Austin/RR region has successfully continued to implement emission reduction measures and has met all EAC milestones including the final one, “attainment of the 8-hour standard by December 31, 2007”

### Technical support activities completed during the reporting period

- Continued monitoring and assessment of ozone levels
  - Started up an ozone monitor at Lake Georgetown location and completed 2007 ozone season monitoring (CAPCOG, AQS)
  - Airborne sampling evaluated ozone transport from power plants and Houston urban area (Baylor Univ)
  - Austin VOC Sampling at additional locations around the region for comparison to emissions data (CAPCOG, UT Austin)
  - An updated conceptual model evaluated high ozone events to characterize meteorological conditions and for use in identifying potential new modeling episodes (CAPCOG, UT)
- Analysis of new source permit growth  
Emissions were evaluated with photochemical model for impacts on regional ozone from one new major point sources to be located northeast of the Austin-RR MSA. Comments made to TCEQ
- Technical report provided by TTI on evaluation of the potential emission reduction benefits with the use of an additive in diesel fuel to provide TxLED equivalency for area diesel fleets

### Outreach/Implementation of the EAC Measures

- Clean Air Force Adds

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- Radio, TV and newspaper messages encouraged public to participate in ozone reduction activities and make suggestions for emission reduction actions
- Clean Air Partners Program
  - Emission reduction commitments made for more than 100 partners representing over 160,000 regional employees
- Inspection and Maintenance
  - Failure rate of less than 7% during this reporting period
  - Remote sensing program continued to identify high emitting vehicles traveling in the area
- Transportation Emission Reduction Measures (TERMS)
  - Almost 500 TERMS Projects
    - Up to 2 tons per day of NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC reduced in 2007
- Texas Emission Reduction Program (TERP)
  - With new applications approved through September up to 2.36 tons per day of NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC expected to be reduced in 2009.
- Local Voluntary Measures
  - Over 90% of all local/voluntary measures fully implemented

### **NEXT STEPS**

- Prepare for the 2008 ozone season
  - Continue operating and upgrading ozone monitoring network
- Continue implementation of existing EAC measures into 8-hour O<sub>3</sub> Flex Plan
  - Heavy duty vehicle idling restrictions: New MOA with TCEQ and continue outreach to truckers and training for enforcement staff
  - Continue work with TCEQ on outreach to regulated small business
  - Encourage use of clean fuels, TxLED additives and TERP applications
  - Encourage active participation by Clean Air Partners
- Work with Central Texas Clean School Bus Program to retrofit all eligible buses

### **CHALLENGES AHEAD**

- New NAAQS 8-hr ozone standard may raise the bar
- Permit applications for construction of new, coal-fired power plants or other large NO<sub>x</sub> sources
  - Continue to assess impact and comment on increase in NO<sub>x</sub> emissions upwind of Austin area
  - Support efforts for TCEQ to evaluate impact of permitted emissions on regional ozone levels and require necessary control to be implemented
- TERP - Encourage TCEQ to continue to allow applicants in Austin region to receive consideration for TERP funding assistance
- Pursue with the 8-hr O<sub>3</sub> Flex agreement as follow-on to EAC
- Promote energy conservation measures, use of renewable power sources and alternate fuels