

**Clean Air Coalition Advisory Committee
Monthly Meeting
Thursday, April 9, 2009 from 1:30 – 3:00 pm
CAPCOG Offices
6800 Burleson Road, Building 310, Suite 165
Austin, Texas
Conference Call***

MARKED AGENDA

Attendees: Melissa Kuskie (TCEQ), Bill Gill, Kristin Hebert, and Faith Melgaard (CAPCOG), Adele Noel (Travis County), Carrie Paige (EPA), Derek Dowdell, Joel with EPS, Darcie (TxDOT), Fred Blood (City of Austin), Deanna Altenhoff (CAF), Natalie (LCRA)

1. Welcome, Introductions and Citizens Comments

No citizen comments

2. EPA and TCEQ Update

150 days left on ozone standard abeyance on lawsuits that was granted for the EPA to reevaluate the 2008 ozone standard.

Cathy asked Carrie if the current schedule for the 2008 ozone standard would be affected by any changes resulting from the reevaluation of the standard. Carrie verified that the abeyance does not affect the current time frame for implementation of the standard.

Recommendations for ozone designation have been received by all states. The EPA will ask questions to states on their recommendations, if necessary, between now and November.

Cathy asked if there was still a possibility of an EAC approach, and if the new administration might be more inclined to allow one. Carrie said that asking again would not really do any good because there is not time for an EAC. Getting an EAC SIP in and to getting controls in place prior to the CAA timeline dates would be a big challenge time wise. If something was available like an EAC, Carrie stated that it would be a different program that would have more specific requirements, something more like a reasonable further progress plan, etc.

Bill Gill asked if there was a timeline for regional administrators to be appointed. Carrie stated that there is an acting administrator, but there are currently no names being leaked as considerations for the position. Bill also asked if the implementation requirements would still be available sometime in June. Carrie said that the acting assistant administrator for Air and Radiation has been briefed on the implementation plan and the administrator is aware that the States need the info ASAP.

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Bill asked if there was a possibility that designation could be delayed based on insufficient monitoring data. Carrie stated that with 8-hour ozone there is not a lack of data, maybe not the most current, but no lack of data. As far as extending the designation date, it would need to be a lack of data, and if there was a lack it would not be a year delay for data to be QA/QCd.

Melissa with TCEQ stated that there are currently no updates on ozone; however, TCEQ will have public meeting to talk about designation process for new Lead standard (May 15, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.). Bill stated that the only current Lead monitors are in Collin County, which TCEQ verified. TCEQ said they would also be discussing location of new monitors at the public meeting.

3. Review of CAC Meeting action items

- **Provisions for new members**

*Need to get together ideas for how to allow for supporting members
Need to have the selection of the new CAC Chair on the next CAC agenda, might be helpful to have the nominees picked out prior to the next CAC meeting. Next meeting needs to be sometime in June to make sure that approval of semi-annual report is given.*

- **Others**

4. Big Push update

- **Recruiting new member cities (as a part of Big Push)**

Adele with Travis County stated that Judge Biscoe sent a letter to all Travis County cities to get them involved with the Big Push. Williamson County has been actively recruiting cities. The other counties, mainly Hays, would be the next step for trying to get participation in the Big Push. Need to figure out who the right contacts are for Hays to try and get someone on board.

Action Item: *Focus on getting contacts for Hays County.*

- **Clean Air Partners Luncheon**

*Luncheon had good turn out and information on Big Push and measures
Ozone season kick-off at city hall resulted in good press coverage.*

- **CLEAN AIR Force Big Push Coordination meeting on 4/3**

60 plus people attended the CAF Big Push event and information was given on measures and effectiveness for the 2009 ozone season. CAF is currently working on a way to follow up with meeting attendees to determine how to keep people engaged.

TxDOT has a program for encouraging teleworking during ozone season. Darcie with TxDOT will send their telework plan to the group for review.

- **April 20th Press Event at the Capitol**

CAMPO is working on a press event for state agency resolution and unveiling of the Ozone Heroes media campaign. The event is at 10:00 a.m. at the Capitol, the 20th of April.

- **Coordination with San Antonio area**

San Antonio will also be involved with the press event. Also, some discussion on working with SA to do some modeling to determine what reductions could be achieved from cement plants. CAPCOG is working with AACOG to determine modeling results to show scenarios for reductions to present to cement companies. If AACOG can do the modeling the results should be available in a few weeks.

Fred with Austin Energy stated that the environmental dispatch from Austin Energy is still in the works, but it has been difficult because if there is demand than they have to run the power plants.

COA, on the 28th of this month, will have a meeting for anyone that is interested in the DOE Clean Cities program to combine applications for federal grant funds because of the \$5M minimum requirement for fund amounts. Fred will be sending out a notice for this meeting.

5. 8-Hour O3 Flex Semi-annual report

- **Covers November thru April timeframe**

Report will be due June 30, 2009.

Action Item: *CAPCOG will be sending out report request by the end of this month.*

6. Legislative Update

SB 16 is the only bill that has really had any movement in the legislature. SB 16 originally removed the LIP funds from the bill. Prior to being voted on and approved, the bill was amended to reinstate the LIP funds, but they are restricted by not allowing the purchase of vehicles with the funds. SB 16 will next go to the House Environmental Regulations Committee. SB 16 currently has a requirement for permitting evaluation to look at cumulative impacts, but the evaluation is currently limited to areas that are already nonattainment. Ideally, the bill would include a cumulative impacts evaluation for near-nonattainment areas as well.

7. TERP Update

Scott Johnson expressed concern at the last CAC meeting that we are not getting enough TERP funding; however, based on current data, the Austin area appears to be about where it should be for TERP funds in relation to the type of equipment operated in the area and the size of the area. TCEQ has not been able to identify any large gaps in the Austin area that would be able to fill a need for TERP funding.

There are enough applications with the TCEQ currently to fulfill the funds available for this round of TERP. No additional announcement for TERP until after the next fiscal year.

8. AARA – DERA grant opportunity – regional consolidation of application

Two different grants, EPA (DERA) and DOE (Clean Cities). EPA grants are due the end of this month, they require a 500k minimum application amount. DOE grants are due at a later date and require \$5M minimum project cost. COA will have a meeting to call for projects on the 29th of this month to look at doing a regional application in order to meet the \$5M minimum grant amount.

9. Other Business

If you experience any issues with the semi-annual report form during the last reporting period, please send your comments on the form to Faith Melgaard with CAPCOG (fmelgaard@capcog.org).

*You may join the meeting via conference call by dialing 512.974.9300 and pressing 123568 at the prompt.

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