

**Clean Air Coalition Advisory Committee
Monthly Meeting
Thursday, January 8, 2009 from 1:30 – 3:00 pm
CAPCOG Offices
6800 Burleson Road, Building 310, Suite 165
Austin, Texas
Conference Call***

MARKED AGENDA

Attendees: Bill Gill, Kristin Hebert, Faith Melgaard, Shana Norton, Cathy Stephens, Deanna Altenhoff, Holly Brightwell, Melissa (TCEQ), Darcy (TxDOT), Joel (ESP), Gary Boyd, Natalie (LCRA), Matt Russell, Derek Dowdell, Fred Blood, Carrie Paige (EPA)

- 1. Welcome, Introductions and Citizens Comments**
- 2. EPA and TCEQ Update**

No new updates from TCEQ since last meeting. Bill asked if Holly got the semi-annual report. Holly said that she did receive the reports and she asked what CAPCOGs plans are for air monitors in 2009. Bill said CAPCOG plans to continue operating all monitors currently operating. Cathy asked if we knew which monitors monitor NO₂ for our region. Bill stated that the Murchison monitor does not have an NO₂ monitor. Bill said that the Audubon monitor does monitor NO₂. Bill stated that the Pflugerville CAPCOG site used to have a NO₂ monitor, however, that monitor was moved to Lake Georgetown, and we are not sure if NO₂ is currently being monitored there.

Action Item: *Holly with TCEQ will look into what monitors in our region monitor NO₂.*

Carrie Page with EPA stated that the CAIR rule Phase 1 has not been vacated but instead remanded back to EPA for additional work. Last month the 2008 ozone designation guidance was made available.

Bill asked about the EPA's ozone standard implementation requirements. Bill stated that CAPCOG is specifically interested in the classification scheme. Carrie stated that she has not heard anything new about the implementation rule, but that it should be available in the spring. Carrie will update us as she finds out.

Cathy asked if the CAIR rule would still be in place while the EPA fixes the rule as the courts required. Carrie stated that the rule must be fixed by 2009.

Bill asked if there is anything going on with the lawsuits over the new standard. Carrie stated that they should know what briefing schedules have been set by January 2009. It may be that nothing will happen on this until later in the New Year.

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3. CAC meeting action items

- **Legislative Priorities Resolution**

Cathy suggested that for the resolution it might be good to change the language to state that the match on counties should be removed.

Action Item: *Gary suggested changing “promote” to “enhance participation.” Strike “promote participation in” replaced with “use.”*

Also added to the resolution, at the request of the Clean Air Coalition, is a requirement on TxLED to promote the use during ozone season in central Texas. Cathy suggested that the language be changed to require TxLED for counties that were near nonattainment.

Action Item: *Gary Boyd and Fred Blood suggested that the TxLED portion of the resolution be changed to state more clearly the intent and include an explanation of the current exemption that is affecting the Austin area. Remove the part about reduction credits, instead just include what we want (i.e. TxLED).*

- **Summary of nonattainment consequences (1 page)**

CAC requested a briefing sheet of nonattainment and call to action for upcoming ozone season. Any comments on resolution should be submitted to CAPCOG staff. The final version will be sent out to CAC for distribution. Gary Boyd stated that he also sees the briefing sheet. Deadline for comments? CAPCOG Exec Committee meeting briefing is next Wednesday, comments on the sheet should be submitted by Monday the 13th of January.

- **TxLED**

*Language to change legislation to be sent to state representatives and senators interested in pursuing cleaner fuel. **Action Item:** Provide comments by Monday on Letter to Flint Hills and rule language proposal.*

- **Other**

Next CAC meeting to be held February 18, 2009 from 11:00-1:00 p.m.

3. Upcoming legislative session

The only legislation that we are currently aware of for the upcoming session is the HB on permitting procedures. The HB has been submitted for drafting, no word on a bill number to date.

Also, Rep. Rodriguez is working on updates to LIRAP to make it easier to use, etc.

Additionally, the Clean Air Working Group has issues to be addressed, and the Texas Clean Air Cities Coalition (Dallas, Houston, Travis County, etc.) has a meeting coming up in February to talk about legislative issues items of interests, permitting, power plants, etc.

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4. Air Quality “Big Push” update

CAMPO released an RFP for multimedia outreach campaign; hope to have selection by early February.

Fred Blood said that Austin Energy is looking to model power plant use and the effects on ozone days. The City of Austin is also working on TxLED requirements and other diesel requirements to be put into contract for Green Events ordinance – measures include, EMT idling restrictions (adding electricity availability) and looking at battery operation to assist with reducing idling. Bill asked if the City had received batteries for TERP grant project. Fred stated that he is not sure if they have been received yet.

Cathy asked Gary Boyd if Williamson County is still planning to do an air quality summit for the upcoming ozone season. Gary said that Williamson is working on planning meetings over the next few weeks for the event, and they are looking at doing the summit late March.

Fred stated that the City of Austin is also looking into having an air quality summit.

Bill mentioned that one of the commitments in the O3 Flex is to do outreach to additional jurisdictions to be included in the 8-O3 Flex. Bill stated that we are currently working on a way to invite all cities with a population of over 50,000 to join the Coalition. Need to figure out who the best contacts are for inviting other jurisdictions. Cathy asked if CAMPO and CAPCOG should send a letter directly to the cities. Bill suggested that we ask at the February CAC meeting

Action Item: *Shana suggested that we have the letters for individual Coalition officials on the CAC letterhead and have it ready for signature at the upcoming CAC meeting.*

5. Use of LIP funds in Travis and Williamson Counties

Williamson County has committed all of the funds to alternative fuel vehicles for county fleet.

Travis County has a little more money to spend than Williamson County. All Travis County funds will be spent. If funds remain, Adele will send out a letter for first come first serve basis on availability of funds for hybrid vehicles for cities in Travis County.

So far, Travis County LIP funds have been used for the following:

- *16 School Buses*
- *17 hybrids for Travis County*
- *1 Solar powered road sign*
- *5 Large propane lawn mowers*

All Williamson County funds have been spent.

7. TERP

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- **ERIG applications accepted through Feb. 20, 2009**
Currently accepting Emission Reduction Incentives Grant – more complicated of the two grants.
- **Rebate applications accepted until all funding has been distributed (goes quick)**

Bill mentioned that the Ag Department is pushing use of TERP funds for tractors.

8. Status of vehicle emission testing program

Bill stated that the DPS discontinued their contract with ESP. DPS stated that they are hoping to renew the contract this month, but the contract will be decreased. DPS stated that they will still have the remote sensing program running, but at this time it is not clear what the specifics the new contract will be.

Gary Boyd said Williamson County has seen an increase in repairs request for LIRAP. Adele Noel stated that Travis County has also seen an increase in repair requests.

9. Other business

Comments on the resolution and designation one page summary, and ideas for letter from CAC elected officials inviting to other local governments in the region to join the CAC due by Monday January 13, 2009.

Action Item: *Email update to be sent with the final product of the documents discussed during meeting.*

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