

## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (TCEQ) UPDATE

### March 28, 2024, RAQPAC Meeting

#### Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) 2008 Eight-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Attainment Demonstration and Reasonable Further Progress State Implementation Plan (SIP) Revisions, and Associated Rules

- On November 29, 2023, the commission approved the proposal of the executive director's recommended HGB severe area attainment demonstration and reasonable further progress SIP revisions and proposed rulemakings to 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 115 and Chapter 117.
- The HGB 2008 eight-hour ozone NAAQS SIP proposal documents are available at the [HGB Latest Ozone Planning Activities](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/sip/hgb/hgb-latest-ozone) webpage (<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/sip/hgb/hgb-latest-ozone>).
- The TCEQ held a public hearing in Houston on January 4, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Houston-Galveston Area Council. The public comment period closed on January 16, 2024 and staff are evaluating comments received during the public comment period.
- The anticipated adoption date for these SIPs is April 24, 2024.

#### Revised Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) NAAQS

- On February 7, 2024, EPA finalized its revision of the annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS to 9.0 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and published in the *Federal Register* on March 6, 2024.
- Estimated timeline as provided by EPA ([https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/pm-naaqs-designations-memo\\_2.7.2024\\_-jg-signed.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/pm-naaqs-designations-memo_2.7.2024_-jg-signed.pdf)).
  - Final NAAQS revision promulgated: February 7, 2024
  - State designations due to EPA: February 7, 2025
  - 120-day letter from EPA to Governor: Early October 2025
  - Anticipated final designations: February 6, 2026
  - Attainment date: December 2032
- TCEQ plans to hold informational meetings and take informal public comment on the state designations considered by the commission before being sent to the Governor for his consideration for submittal to EPA.

#### 2023 Point Source Emissions Inventories (EIs) Due Monday, April 1, 2024

- For questions regarding the 2023 EI submissions, please contact the EI program at [psinvent@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:psinvent@tceq.texas.gov) or at 512-239-1773.
- Since TCEQ will be closed at noon on Friday, March 29 in observation of Good Friday, staff will be available for questions on Friday, March 29 from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. Normal business hours will resume on Monday, April 1, from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

#### Environmental Trade Fair and Conference (ETFC)

- The ETFC will be held May 14-15, 2024, at the Austin Convention Center. During the two-day Conference, agency staff will lead over 100 courses and discussions. Topics include air and water permitting, oil and gas, industrial and solid waste management, compliance and enforcement, and remediation programs.

- Attendee and exhibitor registration is open. For more information, please visit the [Environmental Trade Fair and Conference](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/p2/events/etfc/etf.html) webpage (https://www.tceq.texas.gov/p2/events/etfc/etf.html).

### TCEQ Announces 2024 Texas Environmental Excellence Award (TEEA) Winners

- Since 1993, the TEEA program is an annual awards program that recognizes environmental preservation and protection achievements and has honored more than 250 successful environmental projects and activities. These awards help inspire others to take steps to become better environmental stewards in their communities.
- The selected winners have implemented innovative projects geared toward environmental sustainability, preventing pollution, and protecting Texas. TCEQ will recognize this year's winners and finalists at the annual awards banquet in Austin on May 15. TCEQ would like to congratulate this year's winners and finalists, the full list can be found at [www.TEEA.org](http://www.TEEA.org).
  - Civic/Community: Keep San Angelo Beautiful, San Angelo — Tires-To-Go
  - Education: Keep Irving Beautiful Irving — KIB Environmental Education
  - **Environmental Educator of the Year: Venessa Wallace, Peet Junior High, Conroe - Wildlife Management Teacher**
  - Innovative Operations/Management: Parkland Health, Dallas — Holistic Energy Management Framework
  - **Individual: Don and Penny Johnson, Missouri City — Lifetime Environmental Education Efforts**
  - **Pollution Prevention: Port of Houston, Houston — Port of Houston's Carbon Neutrality, Electrification, and Sustainability Work**
  - Technical/Technology: Trinity River Authority of Texas - Information Technology, Arlington — Digital Twin
  - Water Conservation: Tarrant Regional Water District, Fort Worth — Learn and Grow Program
  - Youth: Ella Elkins, San Angelo — Plastic Recycling Project