

REGIONAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, January 27, 2022 – 10:00 A. M.

Houston-Galveston Area Council

Virtual Teams Meeting

<u>MEMBER PRESENT</u> City of Houston – Win Colbert Environmental Defense Fund – Grace Lewis Fort Bend County – Joel Patterson City of Texas City – Gary Scoggins Harris County, Precinct 2 – Kristen Lee Port Houston – Trae Camble ECHMA – MaryJane Mudd Houston County Pollution Control – Latrice Babin	<u>ALTERNATE PRESENT</u> Air Alliance Houston – Harrison Humphreys Port Houston– Kenneth Gathright Houston Advanced Research Center – Ebrahim Eslami Harris County Pollution Control – Stuart Mueller METRO – Vincent Sanders
<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	<u>STAFF PRESENT</u> Houston-Galveston Area Council – Andrew DeCandis Houston-Galveston Area Council – Ben Finley Houston-Galveston Area Council – Francis Rodriguez Houston-Galveston Area Council – Cameron Stawicki Houston-Galveston Area Council – Cassandra Marshall Houston-Galveston Area Council – Carrie Evans Houston-Galveston Area Council – Eric Boulet Houston-Galveston Area Council – Carlos Lugo Houston-Galveston Area Council – Daniel Brassil Houston-Galveston Area Council – Veronica Waller Houston-Galveston Area Council – Patrick Mandapaka Environmental Protection Agency – Carrie Paige TCEQ – Graham Bates

BRIEFING

Overview

- a. RAQPAC Members and Alternates were presented with agency reports (EPA update, TCEQ update, and Regional Air Quality Monitoring update); and the meeting concluded with announcements.
- b. Go to <http://www.h-gac.com/board-of-directors/advisory-committees/regional-air-quality-planning-advisory-committee/meeting-material.aspx> to view the meeting materials for this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

ITEM 1A. Introduction

Win Colbert called the meeting to order, and members were introduced.

ITEM 1B. Approval of Meeting Summary (9-30-21 & 12-09-21)

Quorum not met.

AGENCY REPORTS

ITEM 2A. EPA Update (Carrie Paige)

A representative from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) briefed the committee:

EPA is Adding 1-bromopropane (1-BP) to the List of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)

On January 5, 2022, EPA published a final rule adding 1-BP to the list of HAPs under section 112 of the Clean Air Act. This final rule is the first time a substance has been added to the HAPs list. The final rule will be effective February 4, 2022. EPA is hosting a webinar to discuss the final rule and potential immediate or future regulatory impacts on facilities that emit 1-BP. The webinar is free and open to participants from state, tribal, and local environmental regulatory agencies, and to the U.S. EPA. Registration is required.

The webinar will be held on Thursday, February 10, 2022, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, eastern time. A Microsoft Teams link will be provided after registering. Click the link below to register. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email. A link to the webinar will be sent the day before the event.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/epa-webinar-for-states-addressing-implementation-of-1-bp-registration>

For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/haps/petitions-add-1-bp-npb-clean-air-act-list-hazardous-air-pollutants>. For information on the CAA list of hazardous air pollutants and modifications to the list, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/haps/initial-list-hazardous-air-pollutants-modifications>.

Revised 2023 and Later Model Year Light-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards

On December 30, 2021, EPA's final rule revising the greenhouse gas emissions standards under Clean Air Act section 202(a) for light-duty vehicles for 2023 and later model years to make the standards more stringent was published in the Federal Register. For more information, including the final rule, regulatory impact analysis, fact sheet, and more, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/regulations-emissions-vehicles-and-engines/final-rule-revise-existing-national-ghg-emissions>. EPA's Review of the Particulate Matter (PM) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS):

On February 25, February 28, and March 4, 2022, the Chartered Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) and the CASAC PM Panel will hold virtual public meetings to discuss draft CASAC reports on the EPA's Draft Supplement to the 2019 Integrated Science Assessment for PM and the Draft PM Policy Assessment. The meetings are scheduled for 11 to 3 pm daily, eastern time. For more information, including how to access these meetings, please visit <https://casac.epa.gov>. Reconsideration of the Decision to Retain 2015 Ground-level Ozone Air Quality Standard: On October 29, 2021, EPA announced it will reconsider the 2020 decision to retain the 2015 ozone NAAQS. EPA is targeting December 2023 to complete the reconsideration.

A CASAC ad hoc panel is being formed to review the policy relevant science for the Ozone NAAQS reconsideration. More information about ground-level ozone and the most recent review of the ozone NAAQS is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-level-ozone-pollution>.

EPA's Review of the Lead (Pb) NAAQS. The CASAC Lead Review Panel has been established. The Determination Memo, which provides a review of the process and list of panel members is posted at https://casac.epa.gov/ords/sab/f?p=105:18:10846463042740:::RP,18:P18_ID:2613.

EPA Proposal to Reduce Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) and other Air Pollutants from the Crude Oil and Natural Gas Source Category: On November 15, 2021, EPA published a proposal to reduce emissions of GHGs and other air pollutants from the Crude Oil and Natural Gas source category.

The comment period was extended from January 14 to January 31, 2022. More information about the proposal on emissions from the Crude Oil and Natural Gas source category is at: <https://www.epa.gov/controlling-air-pollution-oil-and-natural-gas-industry>. New Resources from EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ): Updated Project-Level Analysis Guidance: This updated guidance can be applied when using the MOVES3 emissions model to complete any project-level quantitative CO analysis. See <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-12/420b21047.pdf>. "State Implementation Plans" Website: The OTAQ SIP Team improved the SIP portion of its State and Local Transportation Resources website with links to CAA mobile source SIP programs, guidance, tools, and a

new “Background on CAA mobile source programs for ozone” page. See <https://www.epa.gov/state-and-local-transportation>.

ITEM 2B. TCEQ Update (Graham Bates)

TCEQ staff gave an update to the members regarding the latest information:

Senate Bill (SB) 604 Rulemaking

The Texas Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) program proposed a rulemaking that would implement revisions to Texas Transportation Code, Chapter 504, required by SB 604, 86th Texas Legislature.

The proposal was considered at Commission Agenda on November 17, 2021, and a virtual public hearing was held on January 4, 2022. No comments were received by the deadline of January 5, 2022.

The adoption will be considered at Commission Agenda on March 30, 2022.

Contact I/M staff by phone at (512) 239-4905 or by email at nicholas.landuyt@tceq.texas.gov.

Proposed HGB Monitoring Stations Update

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) 2021 Annual Monitoring Network Plan (AMNP) included additional monitoring proposals under consideration to solicit further public comment. Positive feedback from the public and local officials was received during the AMNP comment period. The TCEQ is currently reviewing information on viable locations for the new air monitoring sites.

Deployment of a particulate matter (PM2.5) continuous monitor to the existing Houston Bayland Park site.

Establishment of a new air monitoring site in the Houston Fifth Ward to measure volatile organic compounds, PM2.5 continuous, and meteorological parameters.

Establishment of a new air monitoring site in the Houston Pleasantville neighborhood area to measure PM2.5 continuous and meteorological parameters.

PM Advance Committee Meeting

The TCEQ will host a meeting with the PM Advance Committee on February 7 at 2pm to discuss recent findings from the Wayside Monitoring Station.

The meeting will be conducted through teams. If anyone would like to attend, please reach out to me Graham Bates at graham.bates@tceq.texas.gov for the link.

ITEM 2D. Regional Air Quality Monitoring Update (Andrew DeCandis)

Since our last meeting in December, there have been no exceedances of the 2008 75 ppb or the 2015 70ppb standard and looking at last year ground-level ozone standard. In total the regions final maximum 4th highest value was 83ppb at the Houston Crochet monitor. The final design value for the 2019 through 2021 period was 70 ppb at the Houston Bayland Park monitor. So far this year, no exceedances.

We have our brand new monitor the Houston Harvest street monitor that just started in 2021. We have no design value for that yet. Since we don't have 3years of data. The 4th highest value in 2021 is 79ppb. We will keep a close watch on this one to see how the two years go.

Moving on, the final PM2.5 in December was 8.67 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. This set of charts as well as all the materials from today's meeting can be found and downloaded from the RAQPAC website

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM 3A. (Andrew DeCandis)

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ITEM 4A. Update on Port Houston Emission Reduction Initiatives (Kenneth Gathright)

Kenneth Gathright gave an overview of the Port Houston emission initiative. Currently, Port Houston has seven members. They own and operate eight terminals, two container facilities, and six for which are the landlord. Discussion continued with they support two-hundred facilities and neighboring communities along by working with federal government. Also, they help facilitate vital commerce through the port that helps keep the local and state economy moving. In further discussion, air quality good movement emission inventory is used to measure improvements and inform decisions for clean air strategy plan. All different pollutants were looked at. It was pointed out between 2013-2019 53% increase in TDU container growth. Also, NOX went down 15%, PM2.5 went down 62%. As well as all pollutants went down.

As discussion continued project 11 will begin in March. This will help to improve air quality by creating a wider, deeper safer channel, with fewer transits, shorter wait times, decreased turn around distance, and allow two-way traffic. Currently, Port Houston has been awarded 8.2million in DERA grant funds and 2.2million in TERP funds. In closing, Port Houston strategy to upgrade equipment and technology to reduce emissions. Along with promote heavy duty truck population to newest edition standard and support new fuels and technology adoption for lower emissions drayage trucks. The final strategy promotes partnerships and collaborate alignment with stakeholders.

ITEM 4B. PM 2.5 Advance Subcommittee Startup (Andrew DeCandis)

Andrew gave an overview to the Stakeholders of how the process began to develop the PM 2.5 path forward report. Discussion continued that participation in the PM 2.5 advance program comes from UPA. We have been participating for nine years. It helps to show that we are trying to try to stay in attainment. This is a voluntary program between EPA and local government.

Discussion continued that the PM 2.5 subcommittee will reconvene and be working on our standard updates with RAQPAC members and other stakeholders. It was pointed out they will focus on updating all existing projects in the report, recruit additional stakeholders, and focus on multipollutant and climate information.

Moving forward, they would also like to work with local industry and local government to find ways and strategies to address local hot spots. Working on these projects helps to understand what is going on in the region. In further discussion they provide an update on the status of changes that were recommended in previous years reports and then recommend future changes to the statewide network moving forward.

INFORMATION ITEMS

ITEM 5A. H-GAC Update (Andrew DeCandis)

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ITEM 6A.

PM 2.5 Advance Subcommittee meeting February 7, 2022 at 2:00p.m.

Next meeting: February 24, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:59A.M.