

**The Minutes of the  
Air Improvement Resources Executive/Advisory Committees Meeting  
Alamo Area Council of Governments  
8700 Tesoro Drive, Suite 100, San Antonio, Texas  
Wednesday, October 26, 2005, 9:00 a.m.**

**Executive Committee Members**

Chairman Jay Millikin, Comal Co. Commissioner  
Mayor Patrick Heath, City of Boerne  
Judge Donald Schraub, Guadalupe County  
Councilwoman Ellen Alkire, GBCCC

**Advisory Committee Members**

Dan Titerle, SAWS  
Pete Donahoe, Holt Co.  
Bill Bushman, AF Center for Environ. Excellence

**Technical Committee Members**

Renee Green, Bexar County, Chair

**Guests**

Dub Smothers  
David Newman, City of San Antonio  
Theresa Haan USAF  
Debra Engler, SAWS  
Stanley A. Dabney, Lackland AFB  
Kyle Cunningham, SA Metro

**AACOG Staff**

Al Notzon, Executive Director  
Dean Danos, Deputy Director  
Peter Bella, Director, Natural Resources  
Steve Smeltzer, Environmental Manager  
Berti Vaughan, Administrative Assistant

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- I. Roll Call** Commissioner Millikin called the meeting to order. He asked that the roll be called. Dean Danos called the roll and announced that the committee did not have a quorum.
- II. Citizens to be Heard** There were none signed up to speak.
- III. Approval of Minutes** The minutes for August 24, 2005 were not approved due to the lack of a quorum. They will be considered during the meeting of December 14, 2005.

Due to the lack of a quorum approval to appoint David Newman, City of San Antonio Environmental Services Manager, to the AIR Advisory Committee will be considered during the meeting of December 14, 2005 as well.

**IV. Ozone and Particulate Matter Report** Peter Bella referred the committee to the ozone and particulate matter report. The handout contained the recordings of values for the four highest values for eight-hour averages on the local TCEQ regulatory monitors CAMS 23, CAMS 58 and CAMS 59 as well as on the six AACOG non-regulatory monitoring sites. Mr. Bella reported that the recordings for Camp Bullis (CAMS58) indicated values at or above 85 parts per billion and that the most recent recording on October 17<sup>th</sup> at CAMS 58 was significant because the episode was high enough to exceed the 85 parts per billion fourth highest 8-hour ozone average. Mr. Bella explained that the high values were apparent on the TCEQ regulatory monitors as well as the AACOG monitors. He presented the pattern of the occurrence through a power point presentation and explained that local pollution had loaded the air with pollutants. Having loaded up with local pollution, the air began to move out of town and then doubled back and carried back over the city so the air received a double dose of pre-cursors causing the high values. He said that on a regional level the same sort of pattern existed. Mr. Bella remarked that he had examined where the air came from when it arrived at the city

region at 7 a.m. in the morning. Using a back trajectory showing how the air carried 48 hours prior to that 7 a.m. in the morning the answer was that it came from Houston. He concluded that both transport from Houston combined with local pollution caused the high readings. In conclusion Mr. Bella said that the region was in a transitional period. To the point where the planning requirements under the Early Action Compact was coming to an end and basically what was left from here on out are the six month semi-annual reports due in December. In conclusion he reminded the committee that failure to meet the air quality standards by 2008 would make the region subject to the traditional rules from which under the EAC has given the region protection.

Renee Green asked if they were prepared to give a report on the status of the implementation plan's proposed strategies or was it something they needed to do through the technical committee. Mr. Bella replied that it needed to go through the technical committee. He explained that all the EAC Air Quality planners in the country had received notice what was expected in the December 2005 semi-annual report. They expected to see the implementation records for the plans approved through the EAC State Implementation Plans (SIPS). He presented a chart that gave them a look at the rules set by the EPA. Mr. Bella briefly went over the various programs listed by EPA.

Commissioner Millikin mentioned that he had asked Mr. Bella to put a recap together for the committee to serve as a reminder that they had busted the federal standards for 2005 and that they only had two years left to stay below the 85 parts per billion. He had asked Mr. Bella to look forward into 2006 and 2007 and report on "what might give us more benefit than we got in 2005." Chairman Millikin commented that some of the control strategies along with the modernization of vehicles in the area would hopefully be a benefit but "what nobody in this room will be able to control is weather patterns like we had on October 17<sup>th</sup> or other maladies that exist in the process." He asked that since a quorum did not exist, that they go over the information again during the next meeting on December 14 at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Bella said that it would be an occasion to review and approve the semi-annual report that will contain the control strategy information in great detail.

David Newman asked to return to "busting the standards on October 17." He asked Peter if staff had given any consideration to the fact that the EPA suspended the need or use for the ultra low sulfur diesel as well as potential for some upset emissions from refineries due to hurricanes prior to the Oct. 17 event. Mr. Bella responded that it was possible to look into industrial upset, and meteorological events because so much had changed by the end of the summer due to the hurricanes. It was also cited that traffic events due to the hurricanes needed to be included in the investigation.

Renee Green said she wanted to get with TCEQ about two state rules passed which would become effective by the end of the year and look into their enforcement. She didn't know whether she would be able to get the information by December 14 but would pursue it nevertheless.

Mayor Heath re-enforced Chairman Millikin's suggestion to look into the issue again on December 14. He commented that they were at a critical juncture after the kind of season the region had just experienced and they all needed to be aware throughout their communities what control measures were in place and take a critical look again at stepping up the programs that might help the region.

Mrs. Green reiterated the need to investigate the fuel issue with the ultra-low sulfur diesel and TXLED so that “we can show there’s been a suspension and how much we were anticipating in lieu of credits from that so that they could get an idea of what the impact would be.” Mr. Bella said it was true that there had been a series of delays in the implementation deadlines for TxLed distribution in areas of Texas. It was supposed to come on line in October but it was delayed due to the hurricane.

Chairman Millikin expressed concern on the control strategies related to the implementation of vapor recovery and degreasing. He questioned the length of time it had taken for approval of the rules and how long it will take to implement the rules in the region. Hence, there was a need for a thorough review again during the next meeting on where we go in the next two years in a one pager, because we sure aren’t being successful.

Peter asked that Rene discuss the Emissions Inventory/Modeling decision made by the Air Technical Committee. Mrs. Green explained that under the Early Action Compact after the conceptual model is completed in April of 2005, there is a requirement to inform the TCEQ and EPA as to whether or not there is another photochemical modeling event needed. Mrs. Green said they were not recommending pursuing another modeling event at this time. She said there were several studies taking place providing plenty of data to review. Chairman Millikin asked that she provide TCEQ that guidance.

Mrs. Green reported that Bexar County had a new ethanol/propane fuel station and had made it available for public use. She provided the following website: [cleanfuels usa.com](http://cleanfuelsusa.com) where the public could sign up and be given an authorization number for use of the fuel.

Peter Bella informed the committee that three new clean air partners were added to the program.

Chairman Millikin thanked everyone for attending and reminded them that they would meeting on December 14, 2005 at 1:30.