

**Minutes
Alamo Area Council of Governments
Air Improvement Resources Technical Committee Meeting
Monday, February 8, 2010, 1:30 p.m.
Al J. Notzon III Board Room
8700 Tesoro Drive, Suite 100
San Antonio, TX 78217-6228**

Members Present

Tom Hornseth, Vice Chair
Kristen Lagow Bettis, SAMHP
William Barker, COSA
Doris Cooksey, CPS
Ken Zigrang, TxDOT
Nick Page, MPO
Christina Castano, VIA Metro Transit
Peter Bella, AACOG

Guests Present

Paul Detterline, Capitol Aggregates, Ltd
Susan Stuver, TAMU
Jesse Alonso, TAMU
Debra Engler, SAWS

Staff Present

Brenda Williams, Outreach Manager
Steven Smeltzer, Environmental Manager
Annette Prosterman, Outreach Coordinator
Parviz Nazem, Transportation Specialist
Berti Vaughan, Administrative Assistant

Minutes

1. Meeting Called to Order
Vice-Chair Tom Hornseth called the meeting to order.
2. Roll Call
The Vice-Chair called roll and declared a quorum.
3. Citizens to be Heard
There were no citizens signed up to be heard.
4. Approval of AIR Technical Committee Meeting Minutes for January 11, 2010
Vice-Chair Hornseth asked the committee for consideration of the January 11, 2010 AIR Technical Committee minutes and requested a motion to approve. Nick Page made the motion to approve the minutes. Peter Bella seconded the motion. The Vice-Chairman called for the vote. The motion passed.
5. Ozone & Particulate Matter Report Update
Mr. Bella said there was nothing new to report since it was still early in the year. He said that given the possible range of final 8-hour ozone standard levels under consideration the region could go into nonattainment at 65 ppb. He said he would keep the committee updated.

Mr. Bella reported that the particulate matter report remained well within the standard.

6. Business of the AIR Technical Committee.

A. Ongoing review of NAAQS for Criteria Pollutants

Mr. Smeltzer gave a power point report that looked at other areas in Texas and how they would fare within the revised ozone standard and the proposed ozone standard His presentation showed existing nonattainment and near nonattainment areas in Texas decreasing in ozone over time from 2000 through 2009. Graphs showed that under the proposed standards of 60, 65, and /or 70 ppb the near nonattainment areas of San Antonio, Austin, and Tyler would very unlikely be able to meet the proposed 70 ppb standard for next year. Other existing areas such as Corpus Christi, Victoria and the Rio Grande valley would have a problem meeting the 60 and 70 ppb proposed standards. He also presented graphs representing the annual national trends of VOC and NOx emissions. He said NOx emissions had been decreasing around the U.S. between 2000 and 2008. He also mentioned revisions to the monitoring site locations for lead monitors were being recommended and they revised the standards to 2008 and looking for comments from the sites.

B. Revisions of Comments to EPA regarding Proposed Revisions of the federal 8-hour average Ozone Standard.

a. Comments and directions from the AIR Executive Committee Meeting of January 27, 2010.

Mr. Bella presented the following comments made by the AIR Executive Advisory Committee during the January 27, 2010 meeting:

- Vice-Chair Wolff: comments should reflect willingness to continue voluntary air quality improvement efforts.
- Chairman Millikin: supported tightening the standards if given credit/allowance by EPA for transport
- Chairman Millikin: stressed we are not anti-health
- Councilman Tremblay: epidemiological study w/fed funding
- Mayor Boyer: recognition of our compliance with PM,
- Consensus; refer comments back to AIR Tech
 - rewrite with attention to the above comments
 - include local voluntary effort having ozone reduction impacts
 - include commitment to continue, expand voluntary efforts

b. Comments during February 2, 2010 EPA Public Hearing in Houston on the Proposed Revisions.

Mr. Bella referred the committee to several documents for their review. They are as follows:

- 1.) Transcriptions on Public Hearings in proposed Revisions to the NAAQS for Ground-level Ozone, February 2, 2010, Houston, TX.

- 2.) Mr. Bella's spoken comments to the US Environmental Protection Agency regarding The Proposed Revision to the Primary and Secondary NAAQS for Ozone. On February 2, 2010, Houston, TX
- 3.) News Release/Comments from TCEQ's Chief Toxicologist Dr. Michael Honeycutt on EPA Proposed Ozone Standard.

Mr. Bella pointed to comments made by Houston and Austin during the public hearings. Discussion was held on transport and ozone classification timelines.

c. Voluntary efforts to reduce ozone: Compiling the List.
The AIR Technical Committee discussed the following ideas for incorporation into a resolution for their final approval before it was presented to the AIR Executive Committee:

- Incorporate comments from Jan. 27th AIR Co. meeting
- List Local Voluntary efforts which improve air quality
- Include a commitment to continue to expand those voluntary efforts so that we can continue to see reductions in ozone
- Include positive statements about what our region has done and what we'll continue to do
- The San Antonio region does not agree with lowering the standard from its current level of 75 parts per billion
- The primary and the secondary ozone standard should remain the same standard.
- Permitting rules need to require an evaluation of ozone impacts using photochemical grid modeling.

- d. **Action Item:** Discussion; consideration and possible approval of comments in response to proposed revision

After further discussion it was agreed and recommended that a draft resolution be sent to the Committee through electronic mail and that members provide their comments for inclusion in the resolution to Mr. Bella by a set date. Mr. Hornseth suggested that Mr. Bella start with comments approved by the AIR Tech Committee on January 11, 2010 and the AIR Executive Committee on January 27, 2010. The committee would vote on the final draft to go before the AIR Executive Committee. Mr. Hornseth asked for a motion. Mr. Barker made the motion and Mr. Page seconded the motion. Mr. Hornseth asked for a vote. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bella said he would be in contact with them within the next three days.

7. Next Meeting Date Monday, March 8, 2010

8. Adjournment.

With no further business to consider the meeting was adjourned.