

Minutes
Alamo Area Council of Governments
Air Improvement Resources Technical Committee Meeting
Monday, January 10, 2011—1:30 p.m.
Al J. Notzon Board Room
Suite 100, 8700 Tesoro Drive
San Antonio, TX 78217-6228

Members Present

Tom Hornseth, Vice Chair
Kyle Cunningham, SAMHP
Angela Rodriguez, CPS
Ken Zigrang, TxDOT
Nick Page, MPO
LeAnn Hosek, Wilson County
Steven Smeltzer, AACOG

Staff Present

Matthew Zwartjes
Berti Vaughan

Guests Present

Jesse Alonzo, TAMU/TEES
Susan Stuver, TAMU/TEES
Chaz Gallagher, Alamo Cement
Debra Engler, SAWS
Max Frailey, Capital Cement
Bill Telford, Aviation Department
Gerald Lamping, NEISD
Christine Bergren, TCEQ
Trish Esquivel, TCEQ
Nathan Weiss, TCEQ
Paul Detterline, Capitol Cement
Frank Dieck, Lackland AFB
Cara Beserra, Lackland AFB
Joe Eutizi, San Miguel Electric

Minutes

1. Meeting Called to Order

In Rene Green's absence 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

The Vice-Chair asked if there were any citizens signed up to speak. There were no citizens signed up to be heard.

4. Approval of AIR Technical Committee Meeting Minutes for July 8, 2010

Vice-Chair Hornseth asked the committee for consideration of the July 8, 2010 AIR Technical Committee minutes and requested a motion to approve. Ken Zigrang made the motion to approve the minutes. Nick Page seconded the motion. The Vice-Chairman called for the vote. The motion unanimously passed.

5. Business of the AIR Technical Committee: Review and Update on Nonattainment.

A. Status Review: Federal 8-hour average ozone standard.

Mr. Smeltzer reported that under the 3-year average of the fourth-highest daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentrations measured at each monitor regulated by TCEQ, the San Antonio region remained in attainment. He also presented the following review:

- As of January 19, 2010: Federal Register publication¹ for Extension of Deadline for Promulgating Designations for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards: The EPA deadline for designations under the 2008 ozone NAAQS is March 12, 2011.
- December 8, 2010: EPA postpones² finalization of revision of 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS. As a result EPA is to ask the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) for further interpretation of the epidemiological and clinical studies re: ozone, EPA will review the input CASAC provides before the new standard is selected and EPA intends to set a final standard in CASAC-recommended range by end of July, 2011.

In conclusion Mr. Smeltzer said San Antonio would be in attainment of 2008 standard by March 12, 2011. He said staff would be requesting new timelines regarding revision of 8-hour ozone standard and associated implementation policy, notifications to state for proposed nonattainment designations, etc. from EPA. In addition staff would be initiating conversation with TCEQ on whether the Governor will submit a letter with revised recommendations based on most-recent design values.

Mr. Hornseth asked Mr. Smeltzer if the executive committee should be considering writing a letter or a resolution to the governor's office reminding them that the region is in fact is in attainment. Mr. Smeltzer responded that the previous year the governor made the minimum requirement for recommendation to the EPA of attainment or non-attainment and that he was required by law to recommend the air quality standards for the state. Mr. Smeltzer said staff would revisit that letter and work with TCEQ to see if the Governor is willing to submit a new letter that designated the region in attainment.

Mr. Hornseth asked if there was a new chairman replacing former chair, Jay Millikin on the air executive committee. Mr. Smeltzer answered that he did not know the answer.

Mr. Smeltzer also reported that the particulate matter remained well under the national air quality standard.

B. Skymine project at Capitol Cement—Joe Jones CEO Skyonics

¹ <http://www.epa.gov/air/ozonepollution/fr/20100119des.pdf>

² <http://www.epa.gov/air/ozonepollution/actions.html#dec10s>

Mr. Smeltzer gave a brief presentation on the successful partnership between the cement industry and the Air Improvement Resources Committee supporting clean air efforts leading to significant reductions in NOx.

Mr. Smeltzer introduced Mr. Joe Jones, CEO and founder of Skyonics Corporation to inform the Air Technical Committee about the Skymine project an innovative new venture (phase two) being implemented by Capitol Cement Plant and sponsored by the Department of Energy. Mr. Jones explained Skymine as a synergy of carbon capture with power, chemical and or material production of unit operations of hydro chlor-bicarbonate plant that fully scrubs SOX, NOx, Hg and captures CO2 for good use. The unit is profitable while reducing air pollution.

C. CPS Energy's STEP program and NOx Reductions

Mr. Smeltzer introduced CPS Energy's STEP program. The STEP program promotes the use of less power and as a direct result leads to NOx reductions. He pointed to CPS Energy Programs in Residential sectors offered by CPS Energy such as: home efficiency, HVAC, peak saver, solar initiative and air flow performance programs. Also included were non-residential sector programs such as lighting HVAC, motors, cool roofs, window film, and others, also lean, clean, and energy, and demand response programs. Mr. Smeltzer explained a graph showing 2009 Net Energy and Demand Savings from these programs. The graph displayed significant savings. In conclusion Mr. Smeltzer said the co-benefits of CPS Energy's energy efficiency programs have provided important NOx reduction benefits, the technical evaluation proved by Texas A&M Energy Systems Laboratory documents reduction distributions in State Implementation Plan (SIP) creditable format and the SIP credit discussion held in nonattainment framework.

D. Hydraulic fracking and Environmentally Friendly Drilling

Mr. Smeltzer gave a report on hydraulic fracking and drilling in the northeast region of the state. He provided an emission inventory for natural gas development in the Haynesville Shale and an evaluation of ozone impacts.

Mr. Smeltzer explained that the Haynesville Shale development is a concern for future regional air quality. He presented early estimates at 140 tons per day of NOx emissions is emitted from that area due to the Haynesville shale development in 2012. In 2020, the emissions inventory projection is at 267 tons of NOx from the development. In comparison a very large coal fired power plant would emit 50 tons per day. Mr. Smeltzer said an additional study is planned and will benefit from data regarding well site compression, and well decline curves. Mr. Smeltzer also informed the committee of the existing Eagle Ford Shale drilling being developed in south Texas including Wilson, and Atascosa Counties.

Dr. Susan Stuver presented information on an environmentally friendly drilling program being managed by the Houston Advanced Research Center, Texas A&M University, Sam Houston State University and Terra Platforms LLC. The program has shown that it can reduce the footprint more than 90% with a further reduction in the impact on the environment if low impact technologies are combined in a system. The system includes

modular small footprint rigs with reduced emissions, pad drilling of multiple wells from one site, new downhole logging and steering tools, and closed loop drilling fluid system. Dr. Stuver said that more attention was being given to air quality as a result of this type of drilling.

6. Action Item: Consideration and possible approval of 2011 committee meeting schedule.

Mr. Hornseth asked the committee for consideration and approval of 2011 committee meeting schedule. Kyle Cunningham moved to approve the schedule. Ken Zigrang seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Next Meeting Date Monday, February 14, 2010

7. Adjournment.
With no further business to consider the meeting was adjourned.