

Minutes

Bi-State Region Air Quality Task Force

Friday, February 11, 2011, 11:00 A.M
Bi-State Regional Commission
Rock Island County Office Building
Third Floor Room 320
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

1. Introductions and Consideration of December 10, 2010 Meeting Minutes. The Air Quality Task Force meeting was called to order by Mr. Mook. Introductions of those in attendance were requested. Participating by conference call included Matthew Johnson, Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IADNR), Sam Shea, Iowa Department of Transportation (IADOT), and Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Task Force members were asked if there were any comments or corrections to the previous meeting's minutes. It was noted that Tim Ridder, City of Rock Island, chaired the December meeting. Mr. Johnson stated that the PM_{2.5} report was due January 1st, not June 1st; and it should read boiler MACT, not boiler act. The task force approved the minutes with the noted corrections.
2. Update from Resource Agencies on Current Air Quality Status/Issues. Mr. Johnson informed the Task Force that the monitoring data was updated on Thursday. The data covers 2008-2010 3-year average for PM_{2.5} and ozone. There is one monitor in the Muscatine area which is in violation of NAAQS standards for PM_{2.5}. Mr. Johnson stated that the EPA is not proposing any changes to carbon monoxide standards, but they are proposing to change the way carbon monoxide standards are monitored in areas with a population over one million. Mr. Johnson noted that the EPA granted a 30-day extension on the boiler MACT, with the final rule due February 21, 2011. Mr. Johnson noted that PM_{2.5} federal implementation rules have been issued, and there are some reconsiderations but didn't have details. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Johnson what will happen to Muscatine now that is not in compliance. Mr. Johnson stated that the 2008-2010 3-year average for Muscatine is 37 ug/m³, which is a decrease from the 2007-2009 3-year average of 38 ug/m³. The standard is 35 ug/m³. Mr. Johnson expects the EPA to issue a SIP call, which will require the state to revise the SIP plan to include ways to bring the Muscatine monitor back into attainment. The timeframe to revise the SIP is usually 12-18 months. The SIP call is a result of the 2007-2009 PM_{2.5} values. In 2006-2008, the Muscatine monitor was in compliance. The IADNR has been working with the facilities in the area and they are aware of the issue.
3. Kick-Off to "Make Outdoor Air Quality Visible" Program. Ms. McCullough began the presentation by stating that a few years ago a survey was conducted about pollution. Most people were aware of land and water pollution, but few were aware of air pollution. The "Make Outdoor Air Quality Visible" project suggests establishing a working group using the Air Quality Task Force. Ms. McCullough requested geographic data on point source emissions from IADNR and ILEPA in order to show where vulnerable populations may be located in relation to these facilities. She stated that the program will be modeled from the

Community Action for Renewed Environment (CARE) program. As part of this strategic planning effort, she suggested inviting experts to some of the working group meetings and discussing concerns and gaps related to air quality. Examples could include issues with transportation, congestion, idling, and rail yards. Ms. McCullough stated the targeted efforts will be in the Bi-State metropolitan area and Muscatine. Focus areas to look at could include potential spatial clusters of major and minor emission sources, motor trucking facilities, airports, and agriculture sources. The strategic plan will have a 5-year timeline with set priorities. Ms. McCullough estimates it will take approximately 9 months to complete the process. The work program was included in the agenda packets. Ms. Tracy emphasized integrating transportation into the process based on the grant funding the project.

4. Local Status Report on Air Quality Issues. Ms. Lentsch referenced the Status Report on Bi-State Regional Commission Activities handout. Ms. Lentsch informed the committee that Illinois ozone levels have decreased from the number shown on the sheet. Ms. McCullough told the Task Force that she would look on the website for the exact numbers and report them at the next meeting. Ms. McCullough stated that Geneseo was looking into a Clean Diesel Grant to help with the upgrade of their oxidation catalysis. However, due to the amount of time required to get their technology approved and the competitiveness of the grant they decided not to continue pursuing the grant. Mr. Jenkins asked Ms. McCullough how much money Bi-State had for the “Make Outdoor Air Quality Visible” program. Ms. McCullough stated that Bi-State had received about \$30,000 in Illinois Special Research funds and \$40,000 in ICAAP funds. Mr. Nitzschke asked if the “Make Outdoor Air Quality Visible” program covered multiple pollutants. Ms. McCullough responded yes but emphasis would be toward ozone and fine particulates.
5. Other Business. Mr. Mook informed the Task Force that Bettendorf and Davenport are working together on fugitive dust associated with construction. They are hoping to minimize the impact of fugitive dust on homes, cars, yards, etc. near construction areas. Bettendorf and Davenport jointly purchased a large vacuum that construction crews will share to suck up the fugitive dust rather than letting it into the air. Fugitive dust’s size is 70 parts per billion (ppb), quite a bit larger than PM2.5 or PM10. Mr. Mook asked Ms. McCullough if Bi-State was interested in promoting air quality at environmental events such as Bald Eagle Day. Ms. McCullough responded that Bi-State has been at some events but tables are expensive and staff tries to share material with other agencies to get information out. Ms. McCullough went on to say that Moline requested an air quality pledge sign for Earth Day Fair and that a table was set up at Healthy Families Day. Ms. Passman offered to have air quality information at her public transportation booth because they tie in together.
6. Scheduling of Next Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday April 8, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.
7. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 11:45 AM.