

**MINUTES**  
**AIR QUALITY TASK FORCE**

Friday, August 11, 2006, 10:00 A.M  
Bi-State Regional Commission  
1504 Third Avenue  
Rock Island, Illinois

1. Introductions and Consideration of June 9, 2006 Meeting Minutes. Mr. Mook called the meeting to order and requested introductions of those in attendance. (A list of those who were signed in at the June 9, 2006 meeting was attached to the minutes.) Mr. Mook asked if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes. The Task Force accepted the minutes as written.
  
2. Update from Resource Agencies on Current Air Quality Issues. Mr. Jim McGraw and Ms. Christine Paulson of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources attended by conference call. Mr. McGraw provided an update on national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for PM<sub>2.5</sub>. Revisions to the PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards have been proposed, including the annual standard to be maintained at 15ug/m<sup>3</sup> and a 24-hour standard reduction from 65 ug/m<sup>3</sup> to 35ug/m<sup>3</sup>. There are also proposed regulatory changes which incite two issues, the implementation of the 1997 PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS and the potential for non-attainment under proposed 2005 NAAQS. Mr. McGraw discussed areas of Iowa that could potentially be non-attainment areas, but explained that non-attainment for those areas would depend on the final NAAQS. Mr. McGraw also discussed the timeline for finalization of those standards.
  
3. Clean Cities and Alternative Fuels Discussion. Mr. Darwin Burkhart and Ms. Mary Cruse of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency provided an update on the statewide fuel and vehicle rebate program. They are working to get the information out to the public concerning rebates and the number of rebate applications is increasing at a fast pace. Over 477 fuel rebates were issued this year. Task Force members can visit [www.illinoisgreenfleets.org](http://www.illinoisgreenfleets.org).

Mr. Burkhart also provided information concerning the activities of the Chicago Area's Clean Cities Coalition. Clean Cities is locally based and invites people to discuss new ideas for improving air quality such as alternative fuels. Clean Cities hosted and participated in 42 outreach events last year.

Mr. Neal Griffith with Quint Cities Petroleum, a fuel distributor, brought Mr. Don Irmen to talk about bio-diesel fuel. Mr. Irmen, from West Central Soy Power, a subsidiary of Renewable Energy Group, Inc., gave a presentation on bio-diesel. Mr. Irmen reviewed the benefits of using emission reducing bio-diesel. He stated that, although it was previously thought that utilizing B-20 produced 2% more Nitrous Oxides than regular diesel, there are new studies being released that show there is no increase. He stated that the energy input/output of petroleum is 1 to .7, ethanol is 1 to 1, and bio-diesel is 1 to 3. Farmers have long been supporters of bio-diesel because of the benefits to the agricultural sector, and he

listed other incentives to get people interested in using bio-diesel, such as independence from foreign oil, lower prices, tax credit, and improving air quality.

Mr. Greg Rohman spoke of the E-85 options in the Illinois Quad Cities area. He represents Gold Star FS, Inc. and provides E-85 fuel at 1601 First Avenue in Silvis.

4. Staff Report on Local Activities and Reference Material. Ms. McCullough asked the Task Force for feedback on a potential rideshare program. The Task Force also reviewed the status report provided in the agenda packet. Ms. McCullough noted as follow-up from the last meeting that staff had surveyed local car dealerships on their knowledge and volume of sales for alternative fuels vehicles. Responses varied from very interested and knowledgeable to little interest and knowledge of alternative fuel vehicles.
5. Other Business. With no other business, Mr. Mook moved on to the next agenda item.
6. Scheduling of Next Meeting. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, October 13, 2006 at 11:00 a.m.
7. Adjournment. Mr. Mook motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned by consensus at 11:55 a.m.