

MINUTES
AIR QUALITY TASK FORCE

Friday, October 13, 2006, 11:00 A.M.
Bi-State Regional Commission
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

1. Introductions and Consideration of August 11, 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 August 11, 2006 meeting was attached to the minutes.) Mr. Mook asked if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes. Mr. Hamlin motioned to approve the meeting minutes as written. They were approved by the Task Force by consensus and accepted as written.
2. Update from Resource Agencies on Current Air Quality Issues. Mr. Jim McGraw and Mr. Matthew Johnson, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, participated via conference call. They reported on the status of the fine particulate regulations being promulgated by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The 24-hour standard for fine particulates (PM_{2.5}) is shifting from 65 ug/m³ to 35 ug/m³, making the standard more stringent while retaining the annual standard for fine particulates at 15 ug/m³. Designations for non-attainment will utilize 2004-2006 data and are expected to be made in 2007 and finalized by 2009. Implementation will occur in 2010 requiring areas to come into attainment by 2015. Voluntary emission reduction efforts for fine particulates are similar to what is being done for ozone. They noted a trash burning workgroup having been organized to address the issue. A multi-disciplinary approach in a roundtable format is being utilized. The group is looking at education, consequences of various actions, and potential solutions to reduce open burning of trash. A number of municipalities have enacted trash burning bans. Of 948 cities (90% response rate), 87% allow leaf burning and 30% allow trash burning. Mr. McGraw addressed questions from the Task Force and indicated he would forward information on the types of voluntary emission reductions that the local area could pursue. The Task Force also discussed a news article related to industrial burning in Rock Island.
3. Status Report on Local Activities. Ms. McCullough directed the Task Force to the status report in the agenda packet. Staff submitted an Iowa Clean Air Attainment (ICAAP) grant application to aid in emission reduction education efforts.
4. Other Business. Mr. Musal of MIRENCO noted the benefits of a good engine maintenance program to avoid nitrogen oxide emissions. A discussion of biodiesel ensued. Key issues noted were understanding the product, using the appropriate additives, and good maintenance. It was noted that ALCOA uses ¼ million gallons of biodiesel per year.
5. Scheduling of Next Meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for Friday, February 9, 2007 at 11:00 a.m.
6. Adjournment. Mr. Mook motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned by consensus at 11:45 a.m.