

Minutes
Air Quality Task Force
Friday, October 24, 2008, 11:00 A.M
Bi-State Regional Commission
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

1. Introductions and Consideration of August 8th, Meeting Minutes. Mr. Mook called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. and requested introductions of those in attendance. Mr. Mook asked if there were any comments or corrections to the previous meeting's minutes. The Task Force approved the minutes as written.

Ms. Denise Bulat, Director of Bi-State Regional Commission, briefly provided background on the Air Quality Task Force and the current, local air quality situation.

2. Presentations on the Inventory of Emissions. Ms. Amy Malik, Midwest Regional Director for ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) provided a presentation about her organization's efforts to assist local governments achieve deep reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Ms. Malik spoke about the 5 Milestone Process that guides local government toward their emission reduction goals. The process includes conducting an inventory of emissions, setting their goals/targets, establishing a local action plan, implementing that plan, and monitoring the progress.

Marnie Stein, Iowa DNR, provided an update on Iowa's greenhouse gas emissions and climate change activities. In 2003, 32% of Iowa's greenhouse gas emissions were a result of electric generation, 18% was from transportation (in comparison to 28% at the national level), and 22% from agriculture (in comparison to 18% at the national level.) Iowa's facility specific greenhouse gas inventory requires the major producers of GHG to report their emissions. There were 276 major sources and ethanol plants across the state, 13 reporting sources in Scott County and 11 in Muscatine County. In the future the inventory will be expanded to include reporting of additional pollutants and specific source categories. That data will be compiled and reported annually to the Governor and General Assembly. Ms. Stein also provided information on the Iowa Climate Change Advisory Council, which was created in 2007. The council must develop multiple scenarios to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions and submit the proposal to the Governor and General Assembly by January 1, 2009.

3. Update from Resource Agencies on Current Air Quality Issues. Mr. Jim McGraw of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Mr. Rob Kaleel of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency attended the meeting by conference call. Mr. McGraw stated that Iowa DNR submitted their rebuttal to the August boundary recommendations of the U.S. EPA. The submittal comprised 150 pages and included data to support that the boundary be smaller. December 18th will be the final recommendations for boundaries nationwide. They will be released by the U.S. EPA. Mr. Kaleel stated that the IL EPA also submitted their comments to U.S. EPA the previous week.

4. Broadening the Geographic Scope of the Quad City Air Quality Task Force. Ms. McCullough, Bi-State Regional Commission, stated that the Air Quality Task Force is a sub-committee of the Urban Transportation Policy Committee. In light of the recent developments regarding the U.S. EPA's boundary recommendation to include Muscatine County, Bi-State Regional Commission would like to take a regional approach to the issue. It would be advantageous to broaden the Quad City Air Quality Task Force to include the full five county Bi-State Region and invite businesses, health departments, and local government officials to participate. Mr. John Riches made a motion to broaden the geographic scope of the Air Quality Task Force to be comprised of a five county area, including Muscatine County. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jim Nitzschke. The motion carried.
5. Other Business. No other business.
6. Scheduling of Next Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday December 12, 2008 at 11:00 a.m.
7. Adjournment. Mr. Mook motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 11:55 a.m.