

Minutes

Bi-State Region Air Quality Task Force

Friday, February 8, 2013, 11:00 A.M
Bi-State Regional Commission
Rock Island County Office Building
Third Floor Room 320
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

1. Kickoff for Strategic Plan Process and Emission Reduction Campaign. Mr. Melton and Ms. McCullough provided an overview of the existing “Make Outdoor Air Quality Visible” Strategic Plan update. Ms McCullough began by reviewing the goals of the Clean Air Partnership and Air Quality Task Force: identify air pollution reduction strategies, take proactive steps to curb air pollution, measure success of those actions, and get the word out about the importance of clean air. Ms. McCullough went on to identify the Air Quality Task Force as the working group for the strategic plan update process. The work involved will include reviewing and updated the current strategic plan and developing a selection of solutions and seeking means to implement said solutions. Bi-State staff will utilize the Community Action for Renewed Environment (CARE) Model as groundwork for the plan. They will also attempt to assess and rank priority air quality improvement activities. The strategic plan for the next five years includes increasing Bi-State Clean Air Partnership Partners and widely marketing the Clean Air Partnership Brand, promoting Eco-Driving, Alternative Transportation, Green Fleets/Equipment, Energy Conservation, and USEPA Smartway and Freight Initiatives, and setting a timeline with priorities. Mr. Melton provided an assessment of strategies from the plan implemented so far.
2. Introductions and Consideration of December 14, 2012 Meeting Minutes. Introductions of those in attendance were requested. Participating by conference call were Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Matthew Johnson, Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IADNR) and David Bloomberg, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (ILEPA). Task Force members were asked if there were any comments or corrections to the previous meeting’s minutes. Hearing none, Mr. Dueysen motioned to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Cook seconded the motion which carried.
3. Update from Resource Agencies on Current Air Quality Status/Issues. Mr. Johnson informed the group that the IADNR is anticipating a proposed non-attainment designation for 1 hour SO₂ levels for Muscatine County. The proposed designation will likely include the entire county as the default until all input and a final decision is made. The IADNR will have 120 days to respond to the proposal and the EPA will have an addition 120 days for a rebuttal to their response. Mr. Johnson expects that IADNR will counter to limit the area designated and continue to protect human health. The letter will be available on the USEPA website.

Ms. McCullough inquired about the status of the expected PM 2.5 non-attainment designation for Muscatine. Mr. Johnson reported that the state has 1 year to propose the

designation, the EPA then has one year to respond and one more year is allotted for additional information to be gathered.

4. Local Status Report on Air Quality Issues. The local air quality status report was attached in the agenda packet and was briefly reviewed by the task force. Mr. Melton provided a final follow-up on the Clean Air Counts: Make an Impact. He shared the results for participation in the calculator along with the Make an Impact website traffic. Mr. Melton explained that there were struggles with participation likely attributed to the level of involvement required for the calculator.

Mr. Boka informed the group that their Diesel Emission Reduction Act funding will be used to retrofit eight transit buses and five dump trucks.

5. Other Business. None.
6. Scheduling of Next Meeting. The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Friday April 12, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.
7. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 11:55 A.M.