

Minutes

Bi-State Region Air Quality Task Force

Friday, May 10, 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. Introductions and Consideration of February 8, 2013 Meeting Minutes. Introductions of those in attendance were requested. Task Force members were asked if there were any comments or corrections to the previous meeting's minutes. Hearing none, Ms. Olson motioned to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Dueysen seconded the motion which carried.
2. Update from Resource Agencies on Current Air Quality Status/Issues. Due to technical difficulties, resource agencies were unable to attend via conference call. Mr. Melton communicated the information discussed in the meeting afterward. Respective resource agencies did not have anything to communicate to the group for this meeting per email communication.
3. Green Fleets Presentation. Mr. Burkhart provided a presentation on Illinois' Green Fleets Program. Mr. Burkhart described two main programs: the Alternate Fuels Rebate Program and the Clean Diesel Grant Program. The Alternate Fuels Rebate Program provides vehicle rebates and conversion rebates for certain types of alternate fuel vehicles, up to \$4,000, or Fuel Rebates up to \$450 for using E85 or higher biodiesel blends (B20+). The Clean Diesel Grant Program provides grants for "cleaning up" existing diesel vehicles or off-road equipment by installing diesel retrofits, idling equipment, new engines through engine repowers (off-road online), or for purchasing a diesel hybrid truck or bus. Applications and related information for the Illinois Alternate Fuels Rebate Program and Illinois Clean Diesel Grant Program are posted at www.illinoisgreenfleets.org.
4. Make Clean Air Visible 2 – Strategic Prioritization and Freight Survey. Mr. Melton requested input regarding the list of strategies compiled from the original Air Quality Strategic Plan. Input provided included focusing on the "low-hanging fruit" such as educational programs and provided incentives for getting organizations on board. Branding in general for the Clean Air Partnership was identified as being extremely important in building momentum for a cultural shift. Defining a cohesive brand and having a website that reflects that brand is important in gaining recognition. Some ideas to promote the group included utilizing racing events for advertising (i.e. sponsorship opportunities like mile markers, staffing a booth at the race and logos on fans at the race). The Scott County Health Department had seen direct results from advertising in movie theaters. There may also be potential in partnering with the Heart and Lung Association. Mr. Schmidt cautioned that adding Ecodriving to the driver's education curriculum could prove to be a challenge based on prior experiences. Ms. Hohensee mentioned, in regards to the commuter choice program, partnering with MetroLINK to educate the public on pre-tax transit benefits.

Mr. Melton provided members present with a draft survey on air quality directed towards freight providers and asked that task force members review and provide comments by the end of next week.

5. Local Status Report on Air Quality Issues. Mr. Melton reviewed the status report distributed with the agenda packet. Changes included preliminary data for Iowa and Illinois 24-hour PM 2.5 and Ozone. Ozone levels have increased in both Iowa and Illinois for the 2010-2012 period from 2009-2011 period. PM 2.5 has decreased for both states over the same timeframe. Mr. Melton called attention to an update from the Iowa Clean Cities Coalition and provided a hard copy of said update to members present.
6. Other Business. Mr. Melton reported the results of a conference call for the Mid-American Collaborative for Alternative Fuels Implementation Air Quality Study which he attended.
7. Scheduling of Next Meeting. The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Friday, June 14, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.
8. Adjournment. Mr. Dougherty motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. VanHall seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.