

MINUTES
AIR QUALITY TASK FORCE

Friday, June 8, 2007, 11:00 A.M.
Bi-State Regional Commission
1504 Third Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois

1. Introductions and Consideration of April 13, 2007 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 April 13, 2007 meeting was attached to the minutes.) Mr. Mook asked if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes. Ms. Mahieu motioned to approve the meeting minutes as written, and they were seconded by Mr. Waldron. They were accepted as written.

2. Illinois Green Fleets Recognition. Mr. Darwin Burkhart, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (ILEPA), explained the Illinois Green Fleets program (Refer to www.illinoisgreenfleets.org). It recognizes individuals, businesses, organizations, and communities that do an outstanding job of building an alternatives fuels fleet and utilization of alternative fuels, such as E-85, propane, liquid or compressed natural gas, and hydrogen. ILEPA offers a rebate program for purchase of alternative fuel vehicles, as well as fuel. Mr. Burkhart presented Mayor Welvaert with a rebate check of \$6,694.71 for the City of Moline. Mayor Welvaert reported that Moline had been recognized as one of the top 100 fleets in North America. They have 26 total flex fuel vehicles as of 2006 and purchased 7,100 gallons of E-85 fuel in the same year. By 2008, the City will purchase another 9 alternative fuel vehicles, plus add hybrids to the fleet. They are working to get an E-85 ethanol tank at the public works facility. Currently, city staff fuel vehicles in Silvis. Additionally, the City has used B-20 biodiesel fuel in 64 road use vehicles, which have logged 550,000 miles.

3. Update from Resource Agencies on Current Air Quality Issues. Mr. Burkhart noted an upcoming workshop being planned to address unnecessary engine idling and truck stop electrification and another on biodiesel fuel. He added that one gallon of diesel fuel is burned for every hour of motor idling. A significant statistic compared with the price of fuel today. Mr. Burkhart also provided an update on the Clean School Bus Program, which provides funds to assist with retrofitting engines and idling equipment. Another new program will focus on locomotive engines to address the significant rail freight traffic in the Chicago area and improve air quality there. Mr. Jim McGraw and Mr. Matthew Johnson, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, participated via conference call. They reported on the Governor of Iowa's climate change initiative that will focus on an inventory of contributors to the emission of greenhouse gases. They noted the upcoming ozone standards review by the USEPA. A final USEPA staff review of the standard is suggesting it be lowered from 80 ppb to 60 ppb. The official proposal will be released June 20, 2007.

4. Review Air Quality Task Force Mission Statement. Ms. McCullough referred the Task Force's Iowa Department of Transportation representative to a copy of the mission statement in members' agenda packets. At the April meeting, Mr. Dean suggested revisiting the mission statement. He offered that air quality is one part of the environment and there may be benefits to broadening the scope to other areas, such as water quality and solid waste management. The mission currently focuses solely on ozone, but the task force has become more knowledgeable on fine particulates. Ms. McCullough indicated she had received comments on the mission from Mr. Nitzschke, Deere & Company representative, who was not able to attend the meeting. He indicated that a mission focused on air quality was important in reference to the upcoming proposed changes to the ozone standard. Although supportive of other task forces being formed, he commented on the need to keep ozone front and center as the group's focus. Ms. McCullough noted that there are several groups working on environmental issues, such as the Scott County Watershed Partners and the Bi-State Waste Coalition among others. She also noted an initiative by United Way to look at a comprehensive quality of life in the Quad Cities. They are looking at education, the environment, health, etc. to determine performance measures that will help benchmark the quality of the Quad Cities. Other task force members, Mr. Riches and Ms. Hoskin, commented in agreement to focus on air quality issues. Mr. Burkhart noted Chicago's Partners for Clean Air broadened their mission to air quality related to the reduction of greenhouse gases. Their message is generally the same when describing emission reduction measures, but their efforts include carbons. The task force directed Bi-State staff to draft a revised mission to address multiple air pollutants and send it out in advance of the next meeting. Ms. McCullough will send the information along with the status of the ozone standards review.
5. Status Report on Local Activities. Ms. McCullough directed the Task Force to the status report in the agenda packet. Staff received notice on the award of an Iowa Clean Air Attainment (ICAAP) grant to aid in emission reduction education efforts. Work will begin after July 1, 2007. A press release was sent out May 22nd on the beginning of ozone season, which started May 1st.
6. Other Business. A reference to the American Lung Association was placed on the agenda. More information would be provided at the next meeting.
7. Scheduling of Next Meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for Friday, August 10, 2007 at 11:00 a.m.
8. Adjournment. Mr. Mook motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned by consensus at 11:45 a.m.