

# Minutes

## Bi-State Region Air Quality Task Force

Friday, June 17, 2011, 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 April 8, 2011 Meeting Minutes. The Air Quality Task Force meeting was called to order by Mr. Mook. Introductions of those in attendance were requested. Participating by conference call included Sam Shea, Iowa Department of Transportation (IADOT), and Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Task Force members were asked if there were any comments or corrections to the previous meeting's minutes. Hearing none, the minutes were approved as written by consensus.
2. Update from Resource Agencies on Current Air Quality Status/Issues. Mr. McGraw, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, shared information on the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> designations by the Governor on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Five counties were designated. It was noted that Muscatine County's data was invalidated due to problems with samplings and as a result, Muscatine County is non-classifiable for sulfur dioxide until the monitoring problem can be remedied. He noted the US Environmental Protection Agency is expected to promulgate new standards for ozone by the end of July 2011 within the range of 60-70 parts per billion (ppb). The current standard is 75 ppb for the three year 24-hour design value. Iowa DNR is anticipating a twenty percent budget reduction and waiting on a final approval by the legislature and Governor. There were no other reports given.
3. Presentation on *Community Land Use Planning for Air Quality Report*. Mr. McGraw reported on Iowa DNR's Cleaner Air, Better Communities outreach program. In a cooperative effort with Iowa Department of Economic Development, Department of Transportation and DNR, a *Community Land Use Planning for Air Quality* report was prepared. The effort evolved from an increasing stringency of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), increasing regulations that affect business, schools and local governments, historical land use decisions that have impacted current air quality and fewer resources to address solutions. The report was prepared to provide background on which land uses contribute to emissions and how site selection decisions can aid future emission reductions or lessen impacts on vulnerable populations. The document encourages collaboration between land use planners and state resource agencies that regulate air quality. *Community Land Use Planning for Air Quality* offers fact sheets and agency contacts as well as the following:
  - Pollutants emitted and regulatory requirements for land use classifications by activity;
  - Recommended siting offsets for source categories;
  - Air quality impacts during construction;
  - Impact assessment and policy making; and
  - Traffic and commuting considerations.

Mr. McGraw emphasized that local decisions have cumulative impacts. He mentioned the web-based Clean Air, Better Communities toolkit which can be found at: <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/AirQuality/AQLandUsePlanning.aspx>. It notes collaborative and links to the Bi-State Clean Air Partnership. Ms. McCullough noted the land use planning report is helpful for looking at a spatial analysis of the Bi-State Region and which business classifications might cluster and affect the regional air quality. Area sources were mapped and examined at the April Air Quality Task Force meeting. The report aligns well with the “Make Air Quality Visible” strategic planning effort underway.

4. Local Status Report on Air Quality Issues. Ms. McCullough directed the Task Force to the blue summary sheet in committee members’ packets for their review. She passed around a copy of a book, *Why is Coco Orange?*, produced by the USEPA. It is a children’s book explaining outdoor air quality, health effects of air pollution and the air quality index. Orange is the Air Quality Index level where air quality begins to deteriorate and affect sensitive populations. Copies are available to Task Force members who may have an opportunity to work with kids or through school mentoring programs.
6. Other Business. Mr. Mook stated that he submitted a nomination of Ms. McCullough and Bi-State Regional Commission for the Governor’s Iowa Environmental Excellence Awards in the category of Air Quality.
7. Scheduling of Next Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday August 12, 2011 at 11:00 a.m.
8. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 11:45 a.m.