

**EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
NETAC POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Friday, November 7, 2008, 1:00 p.m.
Pinecrest Country Club
214 S. Club Drive
Longview, Texas**

MINUTES OF MEETING

1) Call to Order: NETAC Co-Chair Judge Bill Stoudt, Gregg County

Judge Stoudt called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m.

2) Roll Call: Rick McKnight, ETCOG Environmental Manager

Policy Committee Members Present

- NETAC Co-Chair Judge Bill Stoudt, Gregg County
- Jim Mathews, NETAC General Counsel
- Mayor Buzz Fullen, City of Henderson
- Jeff Howell, City of Kilgore
- Kelly Spencer, AEP/SWEPCO
- David Duncan, Luminant
- Judge Richard Anderson, Harrison County
- Stancy Simpson, Eastman Chemical Company
- Judge Sandra Hodges, Rusk County
- Judge Dean Fowler, Upshur County
- Judge Joel Baker, Smith County

Others Present

- Greg Yarwood, ENVIRON
- Sue Kemball-Cook
- Rick McKnight, ETCOG
- Luke Kimbrough, ETCOG
- Leroy Biggers, TCEQ
- Michelle Beatz, TCEQ
- Kathy Singleton, TCEQ
- Carl Young, EPA
- Robert Ray, City of Longview
- Karen Owen, Longview MPO
- Rick Hanning, Luminant

3) Discussion and approval of the NETAC Policy Committee meeting minutes of May 15, 2008: Co-Chair Judge Stoudt

A motion was made to approve the May 15, 2008 minutes. A second was made and the motion passed without any dissent.

4) Election of NETAC Co-Chair: Judge Stoudt

A motion was made to elect City of Tyler Mayor Barbara Bass Co-Chair of the NETAC Policy Committee. A second was made and the motion passed unanimously.

5) Review of the 2008 Ozone Season and discussion of attainment status: Greg Yarwood, ENVIRON

Six high ozone days in Northeast Texas have been analyzed for the 2008 ozone season. Four of the events occurred at the Gregg County monitor and two of the events occurred at the Smith County monitor. The fourth highest 2008 8-hr ozone value at the Gregg County, Smith County, and Karnack monitor are 71 ppb, 72 ppb, and 68 ppb respectively. The primary causes based on analysis were discussed in detail for each high ozone day. The 2008 values are a significant drop from the 2007 4th highest values which were 81 ppb, 77 ppb, and 69 ppb respectively. The 2008 8-hr ozone design value at the Gregg County, Smith County, and Karnack monitors are now 78 ppb, 77 ppb, and 71 ppb respectively. These values reflect a downward trend in the design value for Northeast Texas and are approaching being in attainment of the new revised standard of 75 ppb. Meteorology is seen as playing a key role in the decline of ozone design values. Other contributors to the reduced values are declining regional transport and regional NO_x reductions.

6) Update on EPA implementation of 75 ppb ozone standard: Carl Young, EPA; Kathy Singleton, TCEQ; and Jim Mathews, NETAC

The EPA proposed a new revision to the 8-Hour Ozone Standard in 2007. In March 2008, the 2008 Ozone standard was finalized as 0.075ppm. Recommendations from TCEQ to the EPA on designations for Texas are due in March 2009 and will be based on 2006-2008 monitoring data. The TCEQ staff recommendations will be presented to the TCEQ Commissioners at the December meeting for their review and approval. A meeting agenda and all associated documents will be posted on the TCEQ website in late November for public review. Final designations will be made by EPA on March 10, 2010 with SIPS due by March 12, 2013.

7) Report on additional emission reduction measures planned for Northeast Texas:

- Luminant's plans for SCR controls on Martin Lake units: David Duncan Luminant applied for air permit applications for the Martin Lake selective catalyst reduction (SCR) project in December of 2006. A draft permit was issued and a comment period began in June 2008. Comments and contested case hearing requests were received from the Sierra Club and a group made up of the Caddo Lake Institute, the Caddo Lake Chamber of Commerce and Tourism, the Greater Caddo Lake Association and the City of Uncertain. This has the potential to delay

the installation of SCR at Martin Lake by up to 18 months to 2 years until a final permit is received.

- TCEQ's gas compressor emission reduction rule: TCEQ representative TCEQ provided a voluntary incentive program to gas compressor operators to implement emission reduction control strategies ahead of the required timeline. Approximately \$4 million was available state wide for early implementation of engine retrofits. Participation in the program was not to expected levels and funding remained at the close of the program. Some operators did participate in the program and received funding to reimburse costs associated with installation of emission reduction technology before required by rule to do so. TCEQ is now implementing a rule regarding emissions from these same types of compressor engines. This rule was adopted as part of the DFW attainment demonstration package. A compliance date of March 2010 has been set for the rule.

8) Update on ozone model development: Greg Yarwood

The 2005 Ozone Model is performing well for the 2005 base year. Future work will improve model performance on 3 Longview high ozone days and improve MM5 winds and improve simulation of regional ozone background. A future year will be selected that is related to an areas designation and appears likely to be 2012 or 2015 for Northeast Texas. A future year emission inventory will be developed along with control strategies. The 2005 emission inventory will incorporate any recent updates to the TCEQ 2005 emission inventory that are significant and the 2005 compressor inventory using new Pollution Solutions survey data. A future year emission inventory will be developed that includes projected growth in oil and gas exploration and production, e.g., Haynesville shale; changes to local point source emissions; "No-CAIR" power plant emissions.

9) Status report on research monitoring for HRVOCs at Gregg County monitor during August-September 2008: Greg Yarwood

Ozone is formed from VOCs and NO_x together. Highly reactive VOCs (HRVOCs) form ozone rapidly and efficiently. The purpose of the NETAC HRVOC monitoring effort is to understand causes of high ozone at CAMS 19 and to improve the conceptual model of ozone formation in Northeast Texas. Monitoring done in 2008 used a rapid alkene detector (RAD). The RAD instrument was deployed from August 1 through October 6, 2008 and data is preliminary and has not been finalized. High resolution RAD data confirmed the intermittent character of anthropogenic HRVOC impacts suggested by 2006 VOC monitoring data from CAMS 19. Ten of 64 days showed strong RAD signals above 30 ppb. Many RAD spikes were not associated with high ozone at CAMS 19; most of these occurred at night. Some days may not have been conducive to ozone formation (lower temperatures, clouds). High 1-hour ozone coincided with HRVOC spikes and northerly winds on 3 days in September, suggesting Eastman Complex impacts. The data collected will be further analyzed.

10) Update on legislative funding for near nonattainment areas: Jim Mathews

Mr. Mathews gave a brief overview of the current status of the near nonattainment areas legislative requests. The five areas have developed a preliminary white paper that will be given to legislators. The document describes past successes as well as outlining future activities specific to each area.

11) Presentation on the Texas State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) and Texas A&M's Rebuild America - Rural Community Building Initiative: Kathy Dowdy Holdway

Ms. Holdway gave a presentation over SECO and Texas A&M/s Rebuild America-Rural Community Initiative to reduce energy consumption thus providing air quality benefits.

12) Other Business

No other business was discussed.

13) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.