

**EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
NETAC TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Friday, March 28, 2008, 10:00 a.m.  
Teleconference**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**1) Call to Order: Jim Mathews, NETAC General Counsel**

Jim Mathews called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

**2) Roll Call: Rick McKnight, ETCOG Environmental Manager**

Technical Advisory Committee Present

- Jim Mathews, NETAC General Counsel
- Karen Owen, Longview MPO
- Kim Hughes, AEP
- Jody Thieman, Centerpoint Energy
- David Duncan, Luminant
- Barbara Holly, Tyler MPO
- Doug Boyer, TCEQ
- Keith Mars, TCEQ
- Martha Maldonado, TCEQ
- Greg Morgan, City of Tyler

Others Present

- Greg Yarwood, ENVIRON
- Sue Kemball-Cook, ENVIRON
- Luke Kimbrough, ETCOG
- Rick McKnight, ETCOG
- Martin Buhr, Air Quality Design, Inc.

**3) Discussion and approval of the NETAC Technical Advisory Committee Conference  
Call minutes of December 19, 2007: Jim Mathews**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2007 meeting of the Technical Committee. A second was made and the minutes passed without any opposition.

**4) Update on 2005 Modeling: Sue Kemball-Cook, ENVIRON**

Ozone modeling is used to improve the understanding of the conditions that lead to high ozone formation in East Texas. Models can be used to project future design values and evaluate control strategies. Modeling for 2005 is being done because high ozone days in this time period drive the high design value for East Texas. Work conducted since the

fall of 2007 include integrating the new TCEQ point source and on-road mobile source inventory for 2005, testing a new deposition scheme, and incorporating a new CB05 chemical mechanism. The model is performing reasonably well across the 2 month period but needs improvement on high ozone days to be able to test control strategy development. During high ozone days the model underestimates the contribution of local sources to ozone formation. The model will continue to be improved by evaluating the MM5 simulation, testing model sensitivity to local emission sources, and continuing to develop the emission inventory.

**5) Review and approval of proposed emission inventory studies: Greg Yarwood, ENVIRON**

Task 4.2 in the NETAC Extended FY 06/07 Work Plan relates to the developing emission inventory data that supports the ozone modeling. Greg Yarwood discussed two specific subtasks to fulfill this objective. The first project would develop compressor engine load-factor data. Previously NETAC had assumed 100% load. The work to be done would include surveys to collect load factor data in Northeast Texas. The 2005 inventory would then be revised with Panola County being added. The revised inventory would be prepared and documented in a report. A quality assurance project plan (QAPP) would be prepared before conducting surveys to gather data. Total cost of this subtask would be \$45,000. The second subtask discussed would improve the spatial distribution of emission in Northeast Texas at a cost of \$20,000. The subtask would allocate compressor emission based on actual well locations by taking into account GIS data for well-locations in 2005 provided by the Texas Railroad Commission. An emission inventory for ozone modeling and a report describing the methodology would be prepared. The biogenic emission inventory would also be updated by taking satellite data collected by the UT Center for Space Research and determining where each characteristic vegetation type occurs. The outcome would be a revised spatial distribution of biogenic emissions. A motion was made to approve both subtask and a second was made. The motion passed without any opposition.

**6) Status Report on 2007 VOC Monitoring at CAMS 19: Martin Buhr, Air Quality Design, Inc.**

Martin Buhr gave a presentation covering the 2007 VOC Monitoring at CAMS 19 report. VOC samples were collected at Longview CAMS19 during August and September of 2007 using a self-contained ambient air quality analyzer system (AAA). Specific data was collected for concentrations of methane, ethylene, propylene, propane, and benzene. Initial results from the system looked promising. However, eventually the system insensitivity resulted in no useful data for the non-methane organic compounds (NMOC) species targeted. Currently work is being done to enhance the system sensitivity through sample pre-concentration.

**7) Update on EPA's revision to the 8-hour Ozone Standard: Jim Mathews**

EPA has set the new primary and secondary ozone standard at 75 ppb. Because of rounding the previous standard had been essentially 84 ppb. The Air Quality Index (AQI) has also been updated to reflect changes to the standard. The AQI is EPA's color-coded tool for communicating daily air quality to the public. The basis for revising the standard is that public health was not protected with a requisite level of safety under the previous standard. Based on 2004-2006 monitoring data a total of 345 counties would be non-attainment including Smith, Greg, and Harrison Counties in East Texas. States designation recommendations to EPA would be due in March 2009 with final EPA designations in March 2010. SIPs would be due in approximately 2013 with attainment dates beginning in 2013 and going until possibly 2030.

**8) Analysis of November 3, 2006 aircraft flight near Eastman: Greg Yarwood**

During 2006, NETAC sponsored seven aircraft flights in Northeast Texas to characterize ozone and precursors from local sources and regional transport. On November 3, 2006 a flight was conducted to collect emission measurements to be able to compare to the 2005 TCEQ Emission Inventory (EI). The flight measured ozone precursors including HRVOCs (alkenes) and NO<sub>x</sub> as well as other species in a plume extending downwind of the Eastman Complex. The total ethane emissions estimated from the aircraft data agree with the TCEQ inventory estimate and the spatial distribution is similar. The emissions estimate of NO<sub>y</sub> from the aircraft data was much lower than the TCEQ NO<sub>x</sub> estimate. The discrepancy between the NO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>y</sub> emissions estimates suggest that further work is required to refine our understanding of Eastman's NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. It is important to resolve this issue so that Eastman's NO<sub>x</sub> emissions and its contribution to ozone formation are well-characterized in the Conceptual Model and also in the emission inventory to be used in future ozone modeling of Northeast Texas.

**9) Topics and Speakers for Ozone Season Kickoff Event: Jim Mathews**

The NETAC Ozone Season Awareness event will be held on Thursday, May 15, 2008 at the City of Kilgore Council Chambers. A Technical Advisory Committee will precede the event and a Policy Committee will follow. All interested parties are invited to attend.

**10) Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

**11) Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.