

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Pollution Prevention Advisory Committee**

**Pollution Prevention Advisory Committee
Meeting Agenda**

July 26, 2007
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location:

12100 Park 35 Circle
Building F – Room 5108
Austin, TX 78753

Conference Line:

512-239-4395
Meeting ID **1112#**
Password **0471#**

10:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
A.W. Armstrong and Sharla Hotchkiss
PPAC Co-Chairs

Sharla, Luke, AW, Catrennia, Veronica, Bee, Jim, Daryl, Ned, Jim

10:15 a.m. Approval of Meeting Minutes
A.W. Armstrong and Sharla Hotchkiss
PPAC Co-Chairs

SH no changes

Approval of Agenda
A.W. Armstrong and Sharla Hotchkiss
PPAC Co-Chairs

SH approval of the agenda...ML move up the PPAC discussion

10:30 a.m. Public Comment

No one present...

PPAC Initiatives

10:35 a.m. Agency Green Purchasing and State Facility Energy Efficiency
a. Update from state agencies
1. TCEQ *Mike Lindner*

ML brief update on green purchasing...activities recycling market development and green purchasing staff have been doing...can expand later as much as committee likes, but start off with the Legislature's move of purchasing from TBPC to Comptroller's Office, with other agency activities moving to a new "General Services Commission." Thomas Shook who had spoken to the committee previously will no longer be administering that program. Should be resolved by September.

Had briefed committee previously on laws requiring agencies to purchase recycled content and other environmentally sensitive products, and also the First Choice list and requirements for agencies to purchase items from the first choice list.

The two proposals for the committee today are formal recommendations from the committee to the TCEQ to make a recommendation to the Comptroller for two new items to be added to the

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first choice list. The first is fuel efficient vehicles, and the second is to expand the list to include all energy efficient products and services.

There is a wide variety of products and services that can be rated as “energy star,” and this would propose adding those products to the first choice list.

SH any questions. LM this is great that the committee is considering it. In terms of energy star appliances. HB 3693 already requires state agencies to do this.

ML this recommendation would be a mechanism to accomplish that. This is a practical and realistic means to accomplish the provisions of 3693. LM that should be added to the whereas clauses.

JV this recommendation is an effort to create formal mechanism that doesn't currently exist.

ML the RMDB would have previously made these recommendations, but in dissolving the RMDB, they didn't provide a formal mechanism, these “formal” recommendations were the best mechanism staff could come up with to accomplish what was previously done under RMDB.

NM will this tie the hands of state agencies to get the equipment they need.

ML it will not tie the hands of agencies. It simply creates preferences for these products.

NM will this make energy efficiency the main priority at the cost of all other factors?

ML this simply adds “environmentally sensitive” as one of many preferences. Purchasers are required to take price and quality into account when making purchases.

SH the meat of the whereas clauses is at the end in terms of environmental impacts

LM where does LEED compare with Energy Star

JV Energy Star is government program...initial recommendation that could be expanded

LM need to be a little more aggressive...understand that state agencies need to be able to purchase products, but a truck with a Bin of 5 doesn't seem very environmentally sensitive

AW sounds like it is a recommendation that the committee wants to make to the commission...also sounds like it's not enough. Intent was to make a recommendation today...will members be ready to decide on this today. Should a working group take this and see if any revisions need to be made?

SH two proposals...would the energy efficiency recommendation be enough?

LM doesn't know enough about the 75 Energy Star rating to see if that's enough...where would that put Texas in terms of other states?

SH what is the base right now?

ML Energy Star ratings are strictly energy related...ES and LEED are apples and oranges

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LM there's also the ASHRA 90.1 classification...understands the benefits of a government standard, but should we also look at other alternatives

SH is your primary concern the buildings or the cars, and I'm hearing that it might be both

LM I think we can go further...a working group to refine the language might be good. It's going in the right direction but we might be able to go further

AW another solution might be to back away to develop a broader recommendation to the Commissioners...the committee could follow up with a specific action plan that the Commission could be encouraged to take

LM the specific approach is good...good to provide specific standards and guidelines that the state should follow

AW looking for something interesting for the committee to work on...SDRS was a discussion that was wrapped up as he was coming on...a lot of work from committee members with a good final product that was delivered to the commissioners

SH how time sensitive is this?

ML no deadline...even with recommendations from the Comm tomorrow, it's likely nothing would happen until the comptroller determines who is going to take over the program...best case scenario, September, but there is no deadline. Simply ongoing obligation of the TCEQ and TBPC/Comptroller to reduce state agencies' impact on the environment

SH the longer we take, the longer it will take ...what's the feel of the committee

CW agrees with spirit and intent...don't have much knowledge of ratings systems and numbers...maybe they need more information on those ratings and get a better understanding of how these ratings relate to existing practices and potential impacts

VCB not as aware either...do feel this is important...talking about it but not acting...will do her homework but if any committee members have knowledge, it would be good to have those members provide information...maybe set a timeline for acting on this...does agree that the committee should eventually make a recommendation

NM agrees with the recommendations...if we take too long to consider it, we might end up too far down the road before we end up making a decision...this was developed with the purchasing process in mind

AW agrees with the spirit and intent...there are some statements and numbers that all of the members should have a better understanding of what the impacts might be...targets and goals and metrics should be laid out...better understanding of the current system...would like to take it on as a project.

LM this would be a good longer term project, but also doesn't want to "commit it to death." It might be a matter of just tweaking the language to say that the state should invest in the most efficient products that are available that are also cost efficient...it sounds like purchasers have to

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also consider quality, so even if we move forward no, they have the flexibility to make other considerations

ML clarify...traditionally, items on the First Choice list have to be available because we didn't want agencies to come back and say they can't purchase it, so we didn't set the bar too high

DW don't have too much input...first meeting...two different documents...with their fleet, it's something they have to consider as well...energy efficiency is a big issue as well...not familiar with who the audience is going to be

JC what can we accomplish in one day...would like to volunteer for the committee...can use these guidelines as an example for his company

AW sounds like the committee as a whole is interested...should the committee take it on as a whole

LM is this the only thing on the committee's plate?

JV this is the only issue with a deliverable today, but the HHW rules are another issue that could

SH committee is going through a lot of change...don't want to end up on the back burner

JV staff changes and Mike will carry it on...new management, will make use of the committee...appointments will be coming but staff will ensure that the committee moves forward in initiatives

LM what is the TCEQ standard

JV TCEQ is required to purchase a hybrid or provide justification for why they didn't purchase hybrids

AW motioned to table. LM seconded. Instruct the committee to act as quickly as possible.

Committee formed. Luke, AW, Bee, and Jim. Luke is chair.

AW a lot of exciting things on the horizon...a full committee with a lot of interest

- b. PPAC Discussion
 - 1. Proposed environmentally preferable vehicle recommendation
 - 2. Proposed environmentally preferable vehicle recommendation

11:30 a.m. Hazardous Household Waste Rules

Joe Thomas

Pollution Prevention and Education Section

JV no current draft rules...stakeholder meetings have taken place...draft rules will be going to Executive Management and the Commissioners before they're released

SH any questions...

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JV no current action necessary...staff will wait to provide additional updates draft rules are in hand...

NOON Lunch Break

12:30 p.m. Summary of Changes to SBEA
Ted Hazen, Manager
Pollution Prevention and Education Section

SH Ted Hazen

TH Matt Baker moved to Enforcement...Grace moved in from OAS to be our new Division Director...they don't plan any major changes...happy with the direction of the division...also talk about some of the things we've been working on

LIRAP still gathering details from the last session to determine how it will be implemented...funding is available for counties that have implemented emissions testing...funding is available for vehicle repairs and replacement...\$40 million available...we'll have about nine months to get it implemented...vehicles won't have to fail the emissions test...any vehicle that is ten years old or older can 'opt' into the program

BM already gearing up to implement it...working with Travis County to develop plans for supporting the program and increasing awareness...churches and other social service organizations will be good advocates for the program

TH don't want to get too far ahead of ourselves...we want to make sure everyone has input in the process...we'll likely be ready to implement in December

BM get stakeholders from the communities you are looking to target...make sure your outreach resources and marketing materials are tailored to the communities they are targeted at

NM directed towards non-attainment or is it statewide?

TH any county can opt into it, but they would need to implement an emissions testing program before they could qualify for LIRAP

CW planning to distribute in Spanish and English

TH yes

VC what is the program called?

TH you'll likely hear it referred to as AirCheck Texas but it's also referred to as the Low-Income Repair or Replacement Assistance Program...one of the areas that the program has been expanded is by raising the maximum income limits

NM how are the income limits policed?

TH there are existing provisions in place, but the details of how it will be policed and audited have yet to be worked out

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TH agricultural waste collection events are something we're organizing in communities throughout the state...this might be something that Farm Bureau could help in getting the word

Staff will send out the flier and link to the website

NM this is something FB could help in promoting

TH currently working on a plan to contract with a third-party to conduct outreach and marketing for Texas Recycled Day...it's typically been locally driven, so we're hoping that another non-profit might be able to approach it with new ideas

Any questions?

SH how are you feeling?

TH our division has demonstrated an ability to do good work and our division/section has been asked to take on a larger role in a variety of programs...we hope that will translate to more opportunities for the committee to have an impact

SH we'd ask for management to call on the PPAC for any opportunities the division might see for the committee to be involved

NM be sure to get word to FB on future events

TH Extension Agents and FB can contact us with questions as to what we might be able to accept

CW are you going to try to do it every two months?

TH our goal is to cover the whole state once every two years...we tend to stick with rural areas where we're likely to see these wastes...people will drive 50-100 miles to dispose of the waste they might have

NM good program...it can save a lot of money

TH we're running into a lot of wastes that have been out there and haven't been used in awhile, but people are finding these chemicals and don't know what to do with it

CW we tell people a lot of what they can't do with it...this program is good because it provides people with an idea for what they can do with it

1:00 p.m. Update on the *Take Care of Texas* Campaign
Larissa Bradford, Team Leader
Small Business and Environmental Assistance Division

JV...

2:00 p.m. Update on upcoming appointments to PPAC

JV existing members need to send an e-mail with an updated

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2:30 p.m. Next PPAC Meeting
a. Scheduling

SH September or October for a phone meeting...next face-to-face in February

b. Goals and objectives for meeting

SH update on purchasing...draft rules if they're available...discussion of upcoming educational opportunities

Important for people to show up...

JC can be an issue for those who can't pay travel

Video-conferencing for future meetings...

3:00 p.m. Meeting adjourns