

Fort Worth Small Business and Local Government Advisory Committee

Small Business and Local Government Assistance Section

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Wednesday, October 31, 2007, Noon to 2 p.m.

Compass Bank, 2601 S. Hulen Street, Fort Worth, Texas

Attendees

Shawn Avelar	Kevin North
Steven Baker	Jeannette Pennington
Mick Brennan	Becky Richards, P.G.
Tag Coolidge	Timothy Schulz
Wendy Cooper	Gerald Zenick
Owen Daniel	Tasha Burns, SBLGA
Tina Davis	Brian Christian, SBLGA
Arnold Gachman	Lori Rose, SBLGA
Larry Martin, P.E.	

Action Items

- Draft a letter to EPA regarding the Small Business Ombudsman position
- Provide members with EPA organizational chart for the SBO position *[Complete]*
- Set up special meeting with Dallas SBAC to discuss proposed changes to compliance history rules. *[Complete -- Meeting scheduled for Jan 10, 2008.]*
- Provide members compliance history information from work session *[Complete – see below]*
- Having standing item on agenda to report to CAP *[Complete]*
- Provide members with a summary of TERP changes and workshop information when determined.
- Provide link to minor source NOx rules *[Complete]*
[http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=5&ti=30&pt=1&ch=117&sch=D](http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=5&ti=30&pt=1&ch=117&sch=D)
- Members provide feedback on article to Tasha within 1 week. *[Complete]*
- Draft letters to introduce committee to Chairman Garcia and Commissioner Shaw
- Members spread the word on TERP, AirCheck Texas, and Take Care of Texas
- Link Take Care of Texas to Small Business on website
- Invite new local government representatives
- Change meeting time to 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Introductions: Tag Coolidge, Co-Chair

Chairmen Buddy Garcia attended a reception at Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, which Tag also attended. Tag encouraged use of the open microphone at work sessions to use the opportunity to communicate with the Commissioners.

FY08 SBLGAC Priorities: Tasha Burns, TCEQ SBLGA

The committee chose to readopt the priorities from FY07, listed below.

1. Interface with local legislative delegation.
2. Integrate representatives of local governments into membership and identify local government issues to discuss.
3. Act as an advocate for small businesses and local governments in Texas.

Information from Austin: Brian Christian, Manager of SBLGA

The biography of Chairman Buddy Garcia was provided and Brian spoke about his past state service. Brian also addressed changes in SBLGA management. Grace Montgomery Faulkner made a smooth transition and we foresee no change in the direction of the program. We continue to work to establish good relationships between SBLGA and other divisions within the agency. Confidentiality will continue to be respected. Overall the agency is putting an increased premium on compliance assistance.

Brian discussed SBLGA accomplishments for FY07 including:

- 7000+ hotline calls. The majority were questions about storm water regulations.
- Wastewater outreach workshops on recording keeping and recording - 200+ entities
- Petroleum Storage Tank outreach workshops – first ever – in San Antonio

Brian discussed SBLGA priorities for FY08 including continuing wastewater outreach in 3 regions and continuing PST outreach in 4 regions, including workshops for both in the DFW region. Air is a high priority of the agency. Commissioners adopted the revisions to the SIP for the DFW region. SBLGA will be involved with outreach for minor source NOx rules, TERP outreach and application assistance, and AirCheck Texas outreach to dismantlers.

SBLGA also sent a letter to auto body shops and surface coating facilities in an advocacy role for a new EPA Area Source Rule for Paint Stripping and Miscellaneous Surface Coating Operations NESHAP that was proposed. The comment period is now closed and the committee will be kept informed on any revisions to that proposal, linked here:

http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3/fr_notices/paintstrpng_prop090607.pdf

Link to the marked work session agenda including discussion and consideration of Enforcement Review Implementation status, including the status of the Penalty Policy and Compliance History. Clicking on the Item 2 link will take you to the back up documentation:

http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/comm_exec/agendas/worksess/marked/2007/070907.pdf.

Early in the 2008 there will be opportunity for public participation on the compliance history rules. A joint Dallas SBAC and Fort Worth SBLGAC meeting will be held on Jan 10th to discuss the proposed changes.

Open forum

Tina Davis reminded members to think about new legislation now instead of waiting. Communicate with your representatives about bills that you are interested in that didn't get passed, or any new issues you'd like to see addressed next legislative session.

Arnold Gachman asked questions about the destruction of the engine in Air Check Texas vehicles. Dismantlers must certify destruction of the vehicles and the steel recycling facilities also must report back to the program administrators (NCTCOG in DFW) that the vehicle was destroyed. A manifest has been developed to track the vehicles.

The TERP program expects to open a funding round early in 2008. Members will be notified. The program was given more money in the last legislative session so if you have equipment, or know someone who does, pass the word and get those applications in. There will be workshops held after the funding opens. Visit the website to sign up for updates and get the latest information on the program and download applications once funding opens.

<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/terp/>

Owen Daniel asked about C2 visits counting towards compliance history. A visit with no violations will decrease score and increase standing, thus effecting compliance history in a positive way. C2 visits are confidential unless there is an environmental/health risk.

Members were reminded that Phase II storm water NOIs are due on February 11, 2008. The MS4s have 5 years to implement the permit from it's date of issuance, August 13, 2007.

Steve Baker inquired about the Small Business Ombudsman at EPA. Visit the following links for more information: <<http://www.epa.gov/osdbu/index.htm>>, <<http://www.epa.gov/osdbu/resource.htm>, <http://www.epa.gov/region03/charts/opm.pdf>>.

Topic of the Day—Take Care of Texas

“Take Care of Texas is a statewide campaign designed to involve all Texans in lifestyle and habit changes that will help improve air and water quality, conserve water and energy, reduce waste, and save individuals a little money in the process. This campaign raises awareness of how each of us can make our state a better place to live, work, and play,” <www.takecareoftexas.com>.

Members were provided with litterbags, bumper stickers, book marks, and brochures which they were asked to give to other people to help spread the word about the new program.