

Golden Triangle Small Business Advisory Committee
Small Business and Local Government Assistance Section
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Tuesday, August 21, 2012 - 11:30AM - 1:00PM
Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission, Transportation Conference Room
www.TexasEnviroHelp.org

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Candace Broucher. Each of the eight participants introduced themselves and the business/organization they represented.

Open Forum

The group discussed the new rules for aggregate product operations, and Joy answered general questions about the new rules. The new rules are the result of legislation passed during the last session. Beginning September 1st, all aggregate product operations will be required to register with the TCEQ and pay a fee. They will be inspected by the TCEQ every three years. Joy also answered some general questions about the drought. Although the drought is not affecting Southeast Texas much, it is still a big problem in areas such as Midland and San Angelo.

Update from Austin – Joy Schultz

Joy provided an update on the Compliance History rule changes. In the new formula, Notices of Violation (NOVs) will be used as a component for one year instead of five. Also, being in compliance with an Administrative Order will now receive a reduction to the points associated to this order in the formula beginning in the third year. The complexity of a site is now a more prominent component in the calculation of the Compliance History rating. Only MAJOR violations of the “same nature and same environmental media” will be used in the determination of the Repeat Violator classification. Also, entities now have the option to review their compliance history information for 30 days prior to it being made available on the agency’s website. The deadline to sign up for the Advanced Review of Compliance History (ARCH) is August 31, 2012. The information will be posted for the public to view on November 15, 2012.

Topics for Next SBAC Meeting

Enforcement Initiation Criteria, Supplemental Environmental Projects, the formula for compliance history scores, and voluntary benzene watch areas