

# Houston Small Business Advisory Committee Minutes

## May 21, 2015

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### FISCAL YEAR 2015 PRIORITIES

1. Provide input on TCEQ rules and policies to represent small businesses.
2. Strengthen partnerships with local environmental programs.

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 AM. Each of the participants introduced themselves and the business/organization they represented.

### REVIEW ACTIONS ITEMS FROM DECEMBER 4, 2014 MEETING

Jennifer Amelang briefly discussed minutes from the December 4, 2014, meeting and commented that no action items were outstanding.

### TCEQ AUSTIN UPDATE

TCEQ's Small Business & Local Government Assistance (SBLGA) staff Shannon Herriott, Jennifer Amelang, Rebecca Costigan, and Laura Suffridge provided the SBAC with updates regarding the 2015 Legislative Session and other TCEQ program updates. Legislative updates covered HB 40, state budget, HB14 which will continue the TERP program until 2023, and HB2763 which will require TCEQ to conduct a recycling study. Also, the Tier 2 program will move from DSHS to TCEQ. Other updates included dates for upcoming workshops such as the Petroleum Storage Tank (PST) facilities workshops, Dam Safety, the Houston Police Department Environmental Seminar, Pollution Prevention, and the Advanced Air Permitting Seminar. The PST Compliance Notebook is now available online at [TexasEnviroHelp.org](http://TexasEnviroHelp.org). Many air authorizations including all permit by rules (PBRs) can now be submitted through the TCEQ's electronic reporting system STEERS. The SBLGA section is conducting outreach to promote the Outdoor Burning Brochure (GI-415). The TCEQ has also developed a video entitled "[TCEQ Helps](#)" which highlights the assistance provided by SBLGA to the regulated community. SBLGA's The Advocate publication has switched from a print publication to an exclusively [online publication](#).

### COMPLIANCE ADVISORY PANEL (CAP) SURVEY RESULTS

Jennifer Amelang reviewed the results from the CAP survey regarding participation in the SBACs. The survey was sent out to the Houston SBAC members and attendees. The Houston SBAC survey participants strongly favored receiving TCEQ updates as the main agenda item for the meetings and favored continuing to meet quarterly.

### ACTION ITEMS

1. Think of ways to encourage participation and increase attendance of the SBAC meetings and encourage a colleague to attend the next meeting.

Next SBAC Meeting: TBD