

Houston Small Business Advisory Committee Minutes

June 15, 2011

FISCAL YEAR 2011 PRIORITIES

Provide input on TCEQ rules and policies to represent small businesses and strengthen partnerships with elected officials.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 AM by Co-Chair Jack Holmes. Each of the 21 participants introduced themselves and the business/organization they represented.

REVIEW ACTIONS ITEMS FROM MARCH 15, 2011 MEETING

Cynthia Williams briefly discussed minutes from the March 15, 2011 meeting.

REGIONAL UPDATE

Linda Vasse, Houston Regional Director, attended the meeting and expressed her gratitude for being invited. She stated that she or the assistant regional director will be attending the meetings in the future. Since her topic would have been an overview of the TCEQ Sunset Legislation, she elected to allow Brian Christian, the SBEA Division Director, to discuss it.

TCEQ AUSTIN UPDATE

Brian Christian provided the SBAC with a summary of the Texas Legislation, HB 2694 and discussed the shortfall of the Texas State Budget.

He discussed rule and policy changes that will be made in the following areas: Public Assistance Program, Compliance History, Enforcement Penalty Caps, Supplemental Environmental Projects, Petroleum Storage Tanks, and Surface Casing. For more details regarding these issues, please review the Sunset Summary at <http://www.sunset.state.tx.us/82ndreports/final82nd/final82.pdf>.

For our open discussion period, comments and questions were raised on gas recovery from landfills and conservation of water from low income housing.

There were no action items.

There will be extensive rule-making as results to the Sunset, we are encouraging all members to attend the future meetings and participate in the rulemaking.

Next SBAC Meeting: Wednesday, September 14, 2011