TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (TCEQ) AIR QUALITY DIVISION UPDATE FOR THE FEBRUARY 24, 2011, SETPMTC MEETING

The February 23, 2011, commissioners’ agenda, the following items were approved.

- Rule Project No. 2011-006-101-EN - Title V Air Emissions Fees rulemaking proposal. Hearings are scheduled on April 4th at the Houston-Galveston Area Council and April 7th at the TCEQ’s central office. Contact: Kathy Pendleton, (512) 239-1936, Kathy.Pendleton@tceq.texas.gov.


The new TCEQ Oil and Gas Permit-by-Rule (PBR) and the new Air Quality Standard Permit for Oil and Gas Handling and Production facilities were adopted with amendments by the commission on January 26, 2011. The applicability of these authorizations is currently limited to the counties contained in the Barnett Shale Region in North Texas and the commission is considering expanding the applicability to all counties in Texas. The TCEQ will hold six stakeholders meetings to help the agency update the Oil and Gas Industry Air PBR and Standard Permit. The stakeholder meetings will be open to the public. Registration (http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assistance/industry/oil-gas/oil-gas-stkhldr.html) is required to attend the sessions to ensure that enough seats are available. Contact: Blake Steward, Air Permits Division, (512) 239-6931, Blake.Steward@tceq.texas.gov. More information on these stakeholder meetings is available on the Oil and Gas Stakeholder Group Web Page. www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/air/announcements/advisory/Current/sp_oilgas_sg.html

In the January 25, 2011, issue of the Federal Register (76 FR 4342), the EPA published a notice of its determination that the motor vehicle emissions budgets in the March 10, 2010, Houston-Galveston-Brazoria SIP revisions are adequate for transportation conformity purposes, effective on February 9, 2011.

The 2010 primary one-hour nitrogen dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) designation recommendation was signed by the governor and sent to the EPA on January 22, 2011. Contact: Margaret Earnest, (512) 239-4581, Margaret.Earnest@tceq.texas.gov. More information is available on the Air Pollution from Nitrogen Dioxide Web page. http://www.tceq.texas.gov/implementation/air/sip/texas-sip/criteria-pollutants/sip-no2

A 30 TAC Chapter 115 Control Techniques Guidelines Stakeholder Group meeting was held on December 1, 2010. One stakeholder comment was received during the informal comments period, which ended January 12, 2011. Contact: Frances Dowiak, (512) 239-3931, L Brown/Air Quality Division/TCEQ
Francis.Dowiak@tceq.texas.gov. Additional information is available on the Chapter 115 Stakeholder Group Web page.
http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/rules/115/115_stakeholder