

**Response to Comments Received Regarding the
2009 Collin County Maintenance Plan for Lead and
An Agreed Order with Exide Technologies, Inc.
Proposed March 11, 2009
Adopted August 26, 2009**

Commission staff appeared in Frisco at 2:00 p.m. on April 20, 2009, to conduct a public hearing on the proposals. Since no member of the public appeared to make comments on either proposal, the commission did not open the public hearing. During the comment period, which closed on April 24, 2009, the commission received two comment letters, both from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The EPA suggests quantification or further explanation of the expected benefits that would result from implementing each contingency measure listed in Section 5.6 of the plan. The EPA states that it would like to ensure that the listed measures, if implemented, contain emission reductions sufficient to result quickly in a positive change in air quality.

The commission has provided further explanation of the expected benefits that would result from implementing each contingency measure listed in Section 5.6 of the plan.

The first of the two listed contingency measures is “5.6.1 Automation of the scale and feed for the reverberatory furnace.” Automation of the scale and feed to the reverberatory furnace will provide a consistent feed rate to the furnace. A consistent feed rate will eliminate slug feeding, which can cause the furnace to shift from negative to positive pressure and then back again to negative pressure. The negative pressure is necessary to maintain continuous flow of furnace emissions to the emission controls. The furnace’s shifting to positive pressure can cause an upset condition that produces fugitive emissions from the furnace and the plant.

The second of two listed contingency measures is “5.6.2 Installation of water misting dust suppression system beyond the system already required by permit 1147A.” Use of a water system causes more particles containing lead to fall to the floor, from which they are collected during routine sweeping and vacuuming operations. Water mist dust suppression has been implemented in some areas of the plant, and it has been shown to reduce lead concentrations inside the plant based on OSHA personnel monitor sampling. The reduction in lead concentrations inside the plant reduces the concentration of lead in air that escapes the plant’s negative pressure air capture and bag house systems and become fugitive emissions. Installing and operating additional misting systems within the plant would further reduce fugitive emissions from the plant as well as reducing the lead particle loading going to the negative pressure and bag house system, thereby also reducing stack emissions from that bag house.

The EPA states that Sub-Section 5.5.1 should be reworded to state that an exceedance of the 1978 National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for lead at any air monitor impacted by lead emissions from the Exide Technologies, Inc. (Exide) facility triggers the contingency measure requirement.

The commission agrees that an exceedance of the 1978 lead NAAQS at any monitor impacted by emissions from the Exide facility should trigger the contingency measure requirement. The commission has included language in Sub-Section 5.5.1 of the plan to

make it clear that any such exceedance will trigger the contingency measure requirement in the plan.

The EPA comments that the public has access to the area surrounding one of the lead monitors on the Exide plant property, so it should be considered an ambient air quality monitor. The Air Quality System (AQS) site ID for this monitor is 48-085-0003.

The commission agrees that Exide has not historically had a fence or other physical barrier in place to restrict public access to the facility area near this monitor.

Exide has informed the commission that it recently installed a physical barrier.

The EPA comments that the Air Quality System has been revised to provide lead quarterly average data to four decimal places (x.xxxx $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). EPA recommends updating the lead quarterly average data in Table 2.1 of the maintenance plan to display more decimal places.

The commission disagrees with the EPA's recommendation. The 2008 lead standard requires individual measurements to be reported to three decimal places (73 FR 67055, November 12, 2008) and three-month averages to be rounded to two decimal places (73 FR 67057) for comparison to the lead standard. The purpose of the maintenance plan table of quarterly averages is to show that the averages at the three monitors did not exceed the 1.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ standard. The commission has also reviewed the quarterly average listings in the EPA's "AirData Web site," which provides the public access to annual summaries of data in the EPA's AQS database. The AirData summaries report the quarterly lead averages to two decimal places.

The EPA states that the agreed order with Exide must be submitted to the EPA for approval as part of the SIP revision for this lead maintenance plan because the maintenance demonstration relies on the agreed order.

The commission agrees with the EPA's comment. The agreed order with Exide is being submitted to the EPA as part of the Collin County lead maintenance plan.

The EPA comments that the plan must be clear that a violation triggers the contingency measures requirement and a timeline for implementing measures is needed.

The commission agrees with the comment. The commission has clarified Sections 5.4, 5.5, and 5.6 to address potential violations of the 1978 NAAQS and the timing to implement any contingency measure.

The EPA comments that the plan must ensure that all tasks required by the contingency plan will be adopted and implemented as expeditiously as practicable, but not later than 24 months following the date that the EPA certifies the monitoring data that contains an exceedance of the 1978 lead NAAQS. The EPA interprets the proposed second ten-year maintenance plan as not requiring implementation by a certain amount of time because the time for the executive director to approve an alternate contingency measure is not specified.

The commission has added a provision to incorporate the EPA's requirement to implement the contingency as expeditiously as practicable, but not later than 24 months following the date that the EPA certifies the monitoring data that contains an exceedance of the 1978 lead NAAQS.

The EPA comments that the lead monitoring network commitment as stated in the proposed second ten-year maintenance plan is not acceptable.

The commission has negotiated with the EPA a lead monitoring network plan for Collin County to continue monitoring at the Ash Street monitoring site No. 480450007 and to establish and operate a new source-oriented, maximum impact lead monitoring site required by federal monitoring rules for the 2008 lead NAAQS. The adopted lead maintenance plan clarifies the commitment to operate monitors in accordance with the latest monitoring plan.