Fact Sheet – Air Dispersion Modeling Retrievals from the Air Permits Allowable Database (APAD)

What the requestor will receive:

- **Model-ready text file** for each pollutant, averaging time, and review type combination requested; and
  - All sources (POINT and AREA) listed in APAD within 50 km of a UTM coordinate provided in the request are included.
  - Source identifiers are the unique source identifier listed in APAD. (Please do not alter the source identifiers)

- **Summary Report** listing all sources included in the retrievals with their associated RN, EPN, permit number, source location, source emission rate by pollutant, and source parameters.

Differences between APAD retrievals and Point Source Database (PSDB) retrievals:

- Long-term and short-term are no longer used. Please use the appropriate averaging time.

- Primary and secondary are no longer used. All sources within 50 km of the coordinate provided are included.

- Source identifiers are unique. If a source appears in multiple retrievals, the source identifier is the same.

- Area sources are included in the model-ready text files.

What Data Are In APAD:

Data were migrated into APAD in three phases:

- Source IDs (EPNs), source parameters (including locations), permit allowable emission rates (by pollutant), and permit number for effective permits from PSDB;

- Source IDs and source parameters for active sources from the State of Texas Air Reporting System (STARS); and

- For active sources that reported emissions of criteria pollutants, if there was no record of an allowable emission rate, those sources were assigned an allowable emission rate of 0 pound per hour (lb/hr) and 0 tons per year (tpy) for the reported pollutants.

Now that the data migration is complete, data in APAD are currently being supplemented through data entry of permit information listed in Maximum Allowable

Emission Rate Tables (MAERTs), with priority given to permits for major sources of criteria pollutants.

What Data Gaps Exist in APAD:

As it was not initially possible to populate APAD with all allowable emission rates for all sources, some cases of missing or inconsistent data have been encountered in the database. The issues related to the data gaps are:

- EPNs on MAERTs not matching the source identifiers listed in PSDB or STARS;

- Pollutant names on MAERTs not matching pollutant names listed in PSDB or STARS;

- EPNs with no associated permit number;

- EPNs with missing or invalid source parameters; and

- EPNs with missing or invalid coordinates.

The supplemental data entry continues to eliminate many of the data gaps, but some data are still missing. Indicators of missing data are:

- **Permit numbers beginning with "D-."** These indicate that a dummy permit number was assigned to the EPN.

- **Allowable emission rate being 0 lb/hr or 0 tpy**. These indicate that actual emissions of this pollutant were reported for the EPN, but there is no record of an allowable emission rate. It is the applicant's responsibility to research and determine the appropriate emission rate values for these sources. (See What To Do About Data Gaps in APAD below)

- **Missing or invalid source coordinates.** These sources have been assigned the coordinate of the site centroid or coordinate provided on the agency Core Data Form for the site.

What to Do About Data Gaps in APAD:

As was the case with data retrievals from PSDB, it is the applicant's responsibility to correct any data in error and provide any supplementary data that may be necessary in performing their air quality analysis. Any corrections to the data must be accompanied with documentation that Air Permits Division staff can validate. Much of the data necessary to fill in data gaps are contained in the paper files located in Central Records at the TCEQ. However, there are on-line data sources applicants are encouraged to use:

- Site emission inventory data access by Regulated Entity reference number at www15.tceq.texas.gov/crpub/index.cfm?fuseaction=regent.RNSearch
- GroupWise Remote Document Server to access permit documents like the MAERTs. Permit documents are available through the TCEQ Central File Room (CFR) Online website and can be accessed at TCEQ Central File Room Online. Guidance documents for conducting air permit related searches on CFR Online are at www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/air/nav/air_status_permits.html.

Validated data corrections will be loaded in APAD as appropriate. As corrections are made, the data quality will improve.