

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: PMU Staff

Date: June 3, 1996

From: Dom Ruggeri, Team Leader
Permit Modeling Unit II
Air Quality Planning Division

Subject: Anemometer Heights (Supersedes May 17, 1995 Memo)

The EPA Regional/State/Local Modelers 1993 Workshop Workgroup 4 was asked to evaluate whether concentrations might be higher, or lower, if the default anemometer height in the Industrial Source Complex model was used instead of the actual anemometer height. The workgroup considered this to be a nonissue since the anemometer height should always be known and recommended that the actual anemometer height always be used. This guidance is consistent with the Guideline on Air Quality Models, 9.3.2.2, which recommends that applicants should use the actual height of the anemometer that measured the wind-speed observations used by the model.

In addition, the workgroup recommended that anemometer heights be included on the SCRAM bulletin board.

As an interim measure, we will add anemometer heights for selected surface stations in Texas to the TNRCC OnLine bulletin board. In addition, please advise applicants during modeling meetings that they should use the actual anemometer height for the appropriate meteorological year used in the modeling demonstration.

The use of the default anemometer height should not be a reason to reject a modeling submittal or require additional analyses unless other factors suggest that greater "accuracy" is required. For example, the predicted concentrations are a threat to the NAAQS or ESLs are exceeded. Each determination should be made on a case-by-case basis.

Attachment

ANEMOMETER HEIGHTS
(June, 1996)

Station	Current Height (feet)	Current Height (meters)	Date	Previous Height (feet)	Previous Height (meters)	Dates
Abilene	33	10.0	05/96	+ 21	+ 6.4	10/71-04/96
Amarillo	33	10.0	11/92	+ 23	+ 7.0	05/61-10/92
Austin	+ 33	+ 10.0	07/82	20	6.1	07/61-06/82
Beaumont	+ 33	+ 10.0	01/79	20	6.1	01/61-12/78
Brownsville	33	10.0	05/94	+ 20	+ 6.1	11/66-04/94
Corpus Christi	33	10.0	12/95	+ 23	+ 7.0	08/60-11/95
Dallas/Ft Worth	33	10.0	12/95	+ 22	+ 6.7	05/63-11/95
El Paso	33	10.0	06/95	+ 32	+ 9.8	09/78-05/95
Houston Intercont'l	33	10.0	06/96	+ 20	+ 6.1	06/69-05/96
Lubbock	33	10.0	09/95	+ 25	+ 7.6	09-65-08/95
Midland	33	10.0	03/96	+ 22	+ 6.7	12-59-02/96
San Angelo	33	10.0	02/96	+ 20	+ 6.1	11/47-01/96
San Antonio	33	10.0	06/95	+ 23	+ 7.0	08/53-05/95
Shreveport	+ 33	+ 10.0	08/88	20	6.1	11/55-07/88
Victoria	33	10.0	12/95	+ 20	+ 6.1	04/64-11/95
Waco	33	10.0	07/93	+ 23	+ 7.0	04/51-06/93
Wichita Falls	33	10.0	05/93	+ 21	+ 6.4	06/60-04/93

Notes:

1. A plus sign (+) indicates the height to use with state short-term meteorological data for 1988 (1989 for Shreveport).
2. All stations now have an automated surface observing system (ASOS).
3. Source: TNRCC Data Management & Analysis Section, Monitoring Operations Division.