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SIP Revision: Employer Trip Reduction Program, Houston-Galveston (HGA) Area, June 30, 1992

On June 30, 1992, the Texas Air Control Board (TACB) adopted a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision to set up the Employer Trip Reduction Program (ETR) in the Houston-Galveston area.

Summary of the SIP Revision

Adoption Date: 06/30/1992

EPA Approval Date: 03/7/1995 (60 FR 12442 )

Background: The 1990 Federal Clean Air Act (FCAA) Amendments required states to adopt SIP revisions establishing mandatory employer trip-reduction programs in ozone nonattainment areas classified as severe or higher. In Texas, the only such area was the HGA area. The TACB adopted this SIP revision on June 30, 1992 to set up the ETR programs which would require large employers to reduce commuting trips by their employees through mandatory on-site programs.

Key Changes: At a minimum, this SIP revision had to include a program including each employer of 100 or more persons to increase the average passenger occupancy (APO) per vehicle in commuting trips by at least 25% above the APO for all such trips in the area at the time of the SIP revision.

Under Texas' program, companies were required to submit compliance plans to the TACB by November 15, 1994. These compliance plans were required to demonstrate the company's compliance with the program's requirements by November 15, 1995. Following submission of the compliance plan, companies were required to submit periodic reports demonstrating progress and ultimate attainment of targets. Once an employer attained the target, it was required to submit compliance maintenance plans.

The types of programs that could be incorporated into a compliance plan included ridesharing, telecommuting, guaranteed rides home, vanpooling, compressed work weeks, subsidized use of public transit, parking charges, preferential parking for carpools and vanpools, incentives for bicycle use, and the establishment on-site amenities. In order to provide compliance flexibility, companies were allowed to bank APO credits. To ensure the program's effectiveness, each company was required to designate an employer trip coordinator, while the state would provide certification of training programs and instructors and assist the program a public information program.

SIP Narrative and Appendices

Files linked from this page are in Portable Document Format ([PDF](#)).

Employer Trip Reduction SIP Revision

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