

Houston Small Business Advisory Committee Minutes December 15, 2010

Fiscal Year 2011 Priorities

Provide input on TCEQ rules and policies to represent small businesses and strengthen partnerships with local elected officials.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 AM by Co-Chairs J. Kelly Mowry and Jack Holmes. Each of the 20 participants introduced themselves and the business/organization they represented.

REVIEW ACTIONS ITEMS FROM SEPTEMBER 15, 2010 MEETING

Matt Boger briefly discussed minutes from the September 15, 2010 meeting and commented that no action items were outstanding.

SPECIAL GUEST

De'Montra Rainey, U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Unit.

Mr. Rainey provided the SBAC with an overview of how the EPA's Criminal Investigation Unit functions in conjunction with the TCEQ and other agencies around the world. Mr. Rainey explained that they are only going after the worst offenders, and a lot of the time they have to work with Interpol in order to capture fugitives who have fled the United States. They mainly enforce criminal violations of the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, EPCRA, RCRA, and FIFRA. Mr. Rainey provided handouts to the SBAC, and answered questions regarding how the EPA's Criminal Investigation Unit functions.

AUSTIN UPDATE

Andrew Gardner

Andy reviewed the TCEQ's staff report relating to the Sunset Advisory Commission's recommendations. He discussed that the Sunset Commission was holding a public meeting on December 15, 2010 in Austin, which the public can comment on the TCEQ. After the public comment period the Sunset Commission will issue a decision document that will get an up or down vote. Andy also discussed how the EPA has pushed back the announcement of the new ozone standard until July 31, 2011.

PST World Tour

Matt Boger discussed the Petroleum Storage Tank outreach that SBLGA has been conducting across the State this year. He explained how SBLGA has been providing workshops to the public regarding compliance with the PST rules. In fiscal year 2011, SBLGA has had 864 attendees at the 12 workshops conducted.

ACTION ITEMS

No action items at this time.

See www.texasenvirohelp.com to find a full list of compliance tools

Next SBAC Meeting: Wednesday March 16, 2011