

Houston Small Business Advisory Committee Minutes

June 9, 2016

2016 PRIORITIES

1. Provide input on TCEQ rules and policies to represent small businesses.
2. Strengthen partnerships with local environmental programs.

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 AM. Each of the participants introduced themselves and the business/organization they represented.

Discussion of the Occupational Safety and Health Consultation (OSHCON) Program

Glenn Abdelnoor of the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) presented on the OSHCON program which is a free and confidential service offered through OSHA and the State of Texas. The program is designed to help employers understand and comply with OSHA standards through safety inspections conducted by OSHCON consultants. You can learn more about the program at www.txoshcon.com.

TCEQ Austin Update

Jennifer Amelang, TCEQ Small Business and Local Government Assistance (SBLGA) section, provided the SBAC with TCEQ program updates. Many updates are available through the online publication [The Advocate](#) and include:

- On April 27, 2016, TCEQ commissioners adopted the [Medical Waste Rules](#) implementing House Bill 2244, 84th Legislature.
- On May 11, 2016, TCEQ commissioners adopted the [Volume Based Exemptions for Certain Accidental Discharges](#) implementing Senate Bill (SB) 912, 84th Legislature.
- On May 25th, 2016, TCEQ commissioners adopted [waste rules](#) that amend or add to 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Ch. 335.
- The [Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System \(TPDES\)- Multi-Sector General Permit \(MSGP\) \(TXR050000\)](#) for stormwater discharges from industrial facilities is expected to be renewed. The permit will be effective Aug. 14, 2016. Once effective, currently permitted facilities will have 90 days to renew their permit coverage. The 90 day grace period ends Nov. 14, 2016.
- The Texas Environmental Excellence Awards (TEEA) celebrate the efforts of citizens, communities, businesses, and organizations to preserve and protect the Texas environment. The application deadline is now Oct. 14, 2016. For more information visit www.teea.org.
- Upcoming TCEQ outreach events include TCEQ's [Dam Safety Workshops](#).

Open Discussion

The SBAC members then discussed previous action items. At the March 10, 2016 meeting the SBAC members approved a letter summarizing the Houston SBAC's comments on the Compliance Commitment (C2) site visit program. Jennifer Amelang updated the SBAC that the letter was emailed

to Andy Gardner, the SBLGA section manager. Jennifer will also look into scheduling future meeting dates.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Finalize dates for upcoming meetings.

Next SBAC Meeting: TBD