

Houston Small Business Advisory Committee Minutes

March 10, 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 10:05 AM. Each of the participants introduced themselves and the business/organization they represented.

TCEQ Austin Update

Shannon Herriott, TCEQ Small Business and Local Government Assistance (SBLGA) section team leader, provided the SBAC with updates and information regarding implementation of legislative actions in the last year and other TCEQ program updates. Many updates are also available through the online publication [The Advocate](#) and include:

- The agency adopted new rules for [accidental discharges or spills at wastewater treatment or collection systems](#). The rules are anticipated to become effective June 2, 2016.
- The agency is accepting comments on proposed revisions to the guidelines for the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan. The comment period will be open until April 18, 2016, and you can find more information at [TERPgrants.org](#).
- The agency is proposing to renew and amend the [Ready Mixed Concrete General Permit TXG110000](#).
- The EPA updated the [1989 Total Coliform Rule](#). All public water systems must comply with these revisions by April 1, 2016.
- The EPA also signed the final rule which requires NPDES regulated entities to electronically submit specific permit and compliance monitoring information instead of filing paper reports. [This rule](#) will be implemented in two phases. Phase I becomes effective Dec. 21, 2016.
- Upcoming TCEQ outreach events include TCEQ's Environmental Trade Fair and Conference, Petroleum Storage Tank (PST) workshops covering the [compliance notebook](#) for PST facilities, and Wastewater Asset Management workshops which covers the companion guidance [RG-530](#).

Discussion of Compliance Commitment (C2) Site Visit program changes and comments

At the last two Houston SBAC meetings, the SBAC members have discussed the changes made to the Compliance Commitment (C2) Site Visit Program. In response to these discussions, the SBAC co-chairs developed a letter summarizing the members' comments on these changes. Co-chair J. Kelly Mowry read the draft letter and requested comments from the SBAC members. The members had no comments and approved of the letter. The co-chairs and TCEQ staff Jennifer Amelang will work to finalize the letter and send it to Andy Gardner, the Small Business and Local Government Assistance (SBLGA) section manager.

Discussion of 2016 Priorities and Open Discussion

The SBAC members expressed an interest in continuing to increase participation and attendance of the SBAC meetings. The members also expressed an interest in selecting topics for each meeting and inviting more guest speakers. Topics that have been popular in the past include environmental enforcement and the Occupational Safety and Health Consultation (OSHCON) Program. Jennifer Amelang offered to reach out to the OSHCON program and request a guest speaker for the next meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Finalize the SBAC's letter regarding changes to the C2 program and send to the SBLGA section manager.
2. Contact the OSHCON Program to request a guest speaker for the next meeting.

Next SBAC Meeting: June 9, 2016