

**NEW JERSEY
CLEAN AIR COUNCIL**

Clean Air Council Members

Joseph Constance, Chairman
Kenneth Thoman, Vice Chairman
Mohammad "Ferdows" Ali
Leonard Bielory, M.D.
Sara Bluhm
Michael Egenton
John Elston
Manuel Fuentes-Cotto
Howard Geduldig
Toby Hanna, P.E.
Robert Laumbach, M.D.
Pam Mount

Clean Air Council Members

Richard E. Opiekun, Ph.D.
James Requa, Ed.D.
Nicky Sheats, Esq., Ph.D.
Joseph Spatola, Ph.D.

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NJ CLEAN AIR COUNCIL MEETING RECORD

**NJ DEP
401 East State Street
Public Hearing Room
Trenton, NJ**

Thursday, September 19, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: Joseph Constance opened the meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: All of the Council members were present with the changes noted below.

EXCUSED: Leonard Bielory, Robert Laumbach, Joseph Spatola

PUBLIC: Allen Weston, NJ Association of Counties; Kimberly Scarborough, PSE&G;
Scott Ross, NJ Petroleum Council

Meeting Record

Roll call was taken. Joseph Constance called for motion to approve the June minutes. Richard Opiekun made the motion to approve minutes as submitted. Pam Mount seconded the motion. The June minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Administrative Report

Presented by Bill O'Sullivan, Division of Air Quality

1. USEPA Approval of PM_{2.5} Resignation to Attainment – On September 4, 2013, USEPA approved New Jersey's request to redesignate its fine particle (PM_{2.5}) nonattainment areas to attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
2. Ozone levels this summer – During the summer of 2013, only 10 days exceeded the 75 ppb level at one or more monitor in NJ. This is about half the exceedances we saw in 2012. Also, in 2013 the number of monitor days over 75 ppb were much less than in 2012, indicating a reduced area of high ozone when there was an exceedance.
However, monitors in Conn and Long Island, NY, did experience some very high ozone levels in 2013, including a 1 hour level of 135 ppb, which is over the old 1 hour NAAQS of 120 ppb.
3. Ozone Health Standard - On July 23, 2013, the U.S. Court of Appeals upheld the USEPA's primary ozone standard of 75 parts per billion (ppb), set to protect human health.
4. Sulfur Dioxide – On 7/25/13, EPA designated NJ as attainment or unclassifiable for the 1 hour 75 ppb sulfur dioxide NAAQS. New Jersey had requested that Warren County be designated nonattainment, but NJ's consent decree with NRG on the shutdown of the Portland Power plant in 2014 now makes a nonattainment designation unnecessary.
5. Portland Power Plant – The Third Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the EPA Section 126 rule regarding air pollution from the Portland Power Plant. This is an important legal precedent for other Section 126 petitions for interstate transport of air pollution.
6. Covanta Essex RRF Baghouses – The Bureau of Air Permits (BAP) has issued approval to commence construction of three state of the art baghouses at the Covanta Essex RRF.
7. GCUA Sewage Sludge Incinerators – Gloucester County Utilities Authority proposed to install add-on control devices - carbon absorbers (for both units) and a wet electrostatic precipitator (for the older unit) on their two sewage sludge incinerators.
8. PSE&G Sewaren Combined-cycle Project – The Bureau of Air Permits sought public comment on a draft air permit for two new combined cycle turbines at the Sewaren Generating station. The project would replace 4 boilers and 8 simple cycle turbines with much higher air contaminant emissions.
9. Vineland Municipal Electric – On June 10, 2013, the Bureau of Air Permits issued a preconstruction approval to VMEU to install a new selective catalytic reduction system (SCR) to control NO_x emissions on a simple cycle combustion turbine.
10. Essential Power has submitted an application in Lakewood, NJ to construct a new natural gas simple cycle combustion turbine.

11. Emergency Generators – The Air Quality Permitting Program has completed a new general operating permit (GOP) for emergency generators. A Notice of Availability announcing the new GOP will be published in the New Jersey Register on August 5, 2013 and will be posted on the Department’s website for facilities to use. This is part of the air permit program’s effort to streamline the process for common permits.
12. Ambulance Plug-In Station – An ambulance bay plug in station has been installed at Cooper Hospital in Camden, NJ. This installation, which was funded as a supplemental environmental project (SEP), with enforcement settlement dollars, provides six electric receptacles in the emergency room parking lot for ambulances to utilize instead of idling their engines.
13. 2012 I&M Annual Report – As required by the USEPA, the Division completed its 2012 Annual Report on time covering all emission aspects of the state’s motor vehicle inspection and maintenance (I/M) program. The report provides the USEPA with information demonstrating that the I/M program is operating effectively and achieving air quality benefits as projected by the State Implementation Plan.

Presentation of Clean Air Council Hearing Report to Commissioner

The Council presented its 2013 Public Hearing Report, “Addressing the Adverse Effects of Climate Change on Air Quality” to NJDEP Commissioner Bob Martin. Various Council members participated in highlighting some of the important issues and recommendations in the report to Commissioner Martin. He thanked the council for their expertise and the valuable information collected through their public hearing, as it is key information that affects air pollution control policy in the State and will be put to use moving forward to the future.

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

- Joseph Constance called for motion to adjourn the meeting. Michael Egenton made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Toby Hanna. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50am.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Newspaper Articles

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, October 9, 2013

**Department of State
225 West State Street
4th floor – Conf. Room 1
Trenton, NJ**