

**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

ERM
200 Princeton South Corporate Center
Suite 160, Ewing, NJ

January 9, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-Chairman Kenneth Thoman opened the meeting.

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

EXCUSED: Joseph Constance, Ferdows Ali, James Requa

REPRESENTED: Michel Egenton by Scott Ross, NJ Petroleum Council

PUBLIC: Kimberly Scarborough, PSEG; Susan Angyal, ERM; Kaajal Kheny, Rutgers University, Ann Arnold, NJDEP

Meeting Record

Roll call was taken. Vice -Chairman Kenneth Thoman called for motion to approve the October minutes. Leonard Bielory made the motion to approve minutes as submitted. Richard Opiekun seconded the motion. The October minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Administrative Report

Presented by Bill O'Sullivan, Division of Air Quality

1. Fine Particle Redesignation – NJDEP's submitted to USEPA it's request to formally redesignate NJ to attainment for the fine particulate health standards. EPA previously made clean data determinations, confirming that NJ monitors indicate attainment for both the annual and daily health standards. The redesignation request included a plan to maintain the health standards for 10 years and responses to comments on the proposed redesignation.
2. New fine particle health standard - Air quality data also shows attainment with the new 12 ug/m³ more stringent annual fine particle health standard. Over 2 ug/m³ of the air quality improvement is because of reductions in sulfates, most likely from installation of scrubbers on coal plants. Another 2 ug/m³ of improvement is from reductions in organic carbon, most probably from reductions in vehicle emissions.
3. Open burning – No Sandy waste has been approved for open burning in NJ. NJDEP staff will evaluate the open burning of tree limbs in "burn boxes" that is being done in NY. (While that burning was observed being done with little smoke, NY has since determined it is cheaper and faster to double chip the tree debris.)
4. Portland Power Plant - In response to Commissioner Martin's petition, EPA had ordered GenOn to reduce SO₂ by 60% by 1/6/13. (EPA did a compliance inspection during operation and determined that the 60% reduction was being achieved. However, the Columbia monitor in NJ still recorded an exceedance of the 1 hour health standard. This confirms the interim limit is insufficient. The final limit for an 81% reduction is effective 1/6/15.)
5. Natural gas – Has been identified as a bridge fuel in efforts to reduce the rate of global warming. Natural gas combustion produces about half the CO₂ as coal, and combined cycle electric generating plants produce about ¼ the CO₂ as old coal boilers. A recent study indicates that gas leaks are of concern, but the relatively fast decay of methane in the atmosphere diminishes its warming potential.
6. Electronic Permits and Emission Statements - The air program held a webinar on the use of the new "RADIUS portal" to submit applications and data. This avoids the submittal of disks.
7. General Operating Permit for Emergency Generators – The proposed general operating permit (GOP) appeared in the 1/7/13 NJ Register. This GOP will enable major facilities to register for the GOP on line and install the emergency generator immediately. Minor facilities have used General Permits (GP) for about 10 years. GPs and GOPs are issued for common minor source operations with well-defined air pollution control requirements.
8. EPA Audit of Major Facility Regulation Program – USEPA provided the results of its 2012 audit by letter dated 11/26/12. The key finding was that emission fee revenue is insufficient to fully fund the major facility regulation program (also referred to as the Operating Permit Program). NJDEP partially funds its operating permit program with general funds.
9. Port Authority Clean Air Strategy – The Port Authority reconvened its steering committee and stakeholder workgroups to continue progress on its Clean Air Strategy to reduce air pollution from diesel engines associated with port operations. The authority plans to issue a report summarizing accomplishments to date and defining commitments for the next 5 years.

10. Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Report - The annual data report shows a 13.5% initial failure rate for 2011, which is typical. Autos that fail must be fixed and reinspected.

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

- Discussed Public Hearing Topics
 - New Title: *Addressing Adverse Effects of Climate Change on Air Quality*
- Vice-Chairperson Kenneth Thoman called for motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Leonard Bielory made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Howard Geduldig. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45am.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

News Articles

NEXT MEETING

February 13, 2013

NJ DEP
401 East State Street
4th Floor Large Conference Room
Trenton, NJ