

**MINUTES
CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC)
CONFERENCE CALL
JANUARY 21, 2020**

CAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Caskey, Washington County	John St. Clair, Indiana County
Duane Mowery, Cumberland County	John Walliser, Allegheny County
James Schmid, Delaware County	

CAC MEMBERS PRESENT VIA PHONE:

Terry Dayton, Greene County
John Over, Jr., Fayette County
Jerome Shabazz, Philadelphia County
Tim Weston, Cumberland County

CAC STAFF PRESENT:

Keith Salador, Executive Director

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Shabazz called the conference call to order at 10:20 a.m. in Room 105 of the Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA, with a quorum.

CAC POLICY & REGULATORY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT:

Air Quality Fees Final Rulemaking

Tim Weston indicated that the Policy & Regulatory Oversight Committee received a presentation from DEP with respect to the air quality permit fee program and then reviewed an extensive PowerPoint offered by the Department. Public comment on the proposed fees opened in April of 2019 and three public hearings were held. In response, approximately 1,400 comments were received.

The fees are structured to help fill a financing gap in the air program. Without the final form fee increases, it is estimated that the Clean Air Fund would run out of money in the next several years. With the fee increases, the Fund would be solvent, although the balance would be lower than it has been historically. Concerns raised in the public comments ranged from the need for fee increases to be larger to the specifics of certain fees. Changes have been made to the fee package dealing with procedures for operating permit modifications and specifics of plan approval and operating permit fees. Changes were also made to risk assessment fees, and the Committee discussed the specifics about when a risk assessment would be triggered. The Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee adopted a resolution asking that the Department look at and eventually include provisions that address whether carbon dioxide is subject to the fees and to what extent. The Department indicated that it would evaluate that over the next year or so.

The Policy & Regulatory Oversight Committee adopted a motion to recommend that the CAC endorse moving this fee package forward to the EQB for final adoption.

Tim Weston made a motion that the CAC prepare and direct a letter to the EQB indicating that the fee package has been reviewed and recommending that it be considered for final rulemaking. John Walliser seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD:

Mark Caskey offered that there were three considerations before the EQB today: 1) Final-Omitted Rulemaking - Hazardous Waste Generator Improvement Rule; 2) Final Rulemaking - Revision of the Maximum Allowable Sulfur Content Limit for No. 2 and Lighter Commercial Fuel Oil; and 3) Final Rulemaking – Unconventional Well Permit Application Fees. All three rulemakings were passed.

NEW BUSINESS/OPEN DISCUSSION:

The next meeting of the CAC will be February 18, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, Executive Director Salador requested a motion for adjournment. Jerome Shabazz moved to adjourn the call, which was seconded by Terry Dayton, and all were in favor. The January 21, 2020 conference call of the CAC was adjourned at 10:40 AM.