

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
AIR QUALITY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Final April 4, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee (AQTAC or Committee) Members Present (via Teams or in-person)

Rob Altenburg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joseph Guzek	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marianne Payne	<input type="checkbox"/>	John Tissue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scott Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Christine Heath	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Richard Shaffer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maryjoy Ulatowski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kimberly Coy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Charles McPhedran	<input type="checkbox"/>	John Shimshock	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shaun Vozar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joseph Duckett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mohamed Mellaouch	<input type="checkbox"/>	John Slade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Walliser	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Josephine Gaskey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael Nines	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Stewart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

CALL TO ORDER & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Chair John Tissue convened the meeting at 9:21 am.

John Tissue explained that an election for AQTAC Chair and Vice Chair will be held at the July 11, 2024, meeting.

Nicholas Lazor, Director of DEP's Bureau of Air Quality (BAQ), announced Joseph Martini's promotion to Section Chief for BAQ's Regulatory Development section, explaining the transition of Joseph's duties to his new role.

Approval of Minutes

John Tissue requested a motion to approve the 1/11/24 meeting minutes with the following revisions:

- Spelling correction of Shaun Vozar's first name on page 9.

Josephine Gaskey made a motion to approve. Rob Altenburg seconded. Joseph Duckett abstained. John Tissue, hearing no opposition, so moved to approve the minutes.

PRESENTATION

Soumya Arikeri, Air Quality Engineer, presented on DEP's draft proposed rulemaking to amend 25 Pa. Code Chapter 122 National Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources (Delegation of Authority of Federal Plans).

Discussion

John Tissue asked how this proposal relates to the delegation authority DEP already has for all New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) promulgated under 40 CFR Part 60. Soumya Arikeri responded that Pennsylvania has delegation of authority from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for all NSPS. NSPS apply to new and modified sources. Emission guidelines apply to existing sources. To implement the emission guidelines, DEP must either submit a State Plan to EPA for approval or request delegation of a Federal Plan established by the EPA in 40 CFR Part 62.

Joseph Duckett asked how this applies to municipal solid waste landfills and whether this is the only source category addressed in the rule. Soumya Arikeri explained DEP did not develop a State Plan and instead is requesting delegation of authority to implement the Federal Plan for

municipal solid waste landfills. There are various source categories for which emission guidelines are promulgated by the EPA. EPA indicated that 25 Pa. Code Chapter 122.3 does not explicitly include Federal Plans established under 40 CFR Part 62 and concluded that Pennsylvania does not have adequate legal authority in Chapter 122.3 to request delegation of Federal Plans established in 40 CFR Part 62. This proposed rulemaking would amend 25 Pa. Code Chapter 122 to provide the legal authority to request delegation of Federal Plans implementing Emission Guidelines for existing stationary sources. If this proposal is finalized, DEP will submit the final-form regulation to the EPA as a revision to the Pennsylvania State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Joseph Guzek asked for additional clarification of 40 CFR Part 60, Subparts B and Ba. Soumya Arikeri explained that 40 CFR Part 60, Subparts B and Ba pertain to the requirements for development of State Plans.

Cristine Heath asked where the regulatory language will reside. Sean Wenrich explained that 40 CFR Part 62 Subpart NN lists State Plans approved by EPA, delegated Federal Plans and negative declarations. Ms. Heath noted the recent promulgation of EPA's NSPS OOOOc Emission Guidelines pertaining to greenhouse gas emissions from crude oil and natural gas facilities. She asked for confirmation that whether Pennsylvania requests delegation of the Federal Plan or develops a State Plan, the EPA approval will be found in 40 CFR Part 62. Sean Wenrich confirmed that was correct and clarified that development of a State Plan does not always require a state rulemaking.

PRESENTATION

Arun Sharma, Air Quality Engineering Specialist, presented the Draft Proposed Rulemaking: Additional RACT Requirement for sources of Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x) and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). This rulemaking makes corrections to the 2021 RACT III rulemaking for major sources.

Discussion

John Tissue requested clarification of the proposed changes to RACT III. Sean Wenrich explained the corrections will address two mass-equivalent basis factors and will address incorrect cross-references. He explained that no facilities are known to have been impacted by the errors.

Joseph Duckett asked for the basis of the corrections established in the amendment. Sean Wenrich explained that pounds (lb) per million BTU can be calculated from a parts per million concentration using standard conversion factors involved in stack testing calculations. Certain values in the original rulemaking were calculated correctly, while values for VOCs were incorrectly calculated due to reference errors in the Excel sheet. Sean Wenrich noted a DEP colleague discovered the error.

Joseph Guzek explained that the changes in the amendment simply clean up the rulemaking, with no impact to facilities.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No requests for public comment were received for this meeting.

PRESENTATION

Hallie Weiss, Air Quality Program Specialist in the Monitoring Division and Bryan Oshinski, Air Quality Program Specialist, in the Air Resource Management Division presented *Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) National Ambient Air Quality Standard*. The presentation detailed EPA's changes to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) published in the Federal Register on March 6, 2024, and the impacts to Pennsylvania.

Hallie noted the 2023 annual PM2.5 design values in several Pennsylvania counties will not meet the new NAAQS standard of 9.0 ug/m³. DEP anticipates these design values will be slightly lower once EPA applies the correction factor to remove the T640 monitor bias. Additionally, an exceptional events demonstration to flag air quality monitoring data impacted by Canadian wildfire smoke in the summer of 2023 from the design value calculations will also likely lower values.

Discussion

Kevin Stewart asked when DEP transitioned to the T640 monitors. Additionally, he requested clarification on the timing of the federal equivalency determination. Hallie Weiss explained the T640 monitors were designated as a Federal Equivalent Method (FEM) by EPA on July 13, 2016.

Kevin Stewart asked if there was a specific correction formula to correct the T640 bias. Hallie Weiss explained that the correction applied to the T640 firmware and the data alignment equation are based on an algorithm. However, the algorithm is proprietary and the formula for the correction has not been made publicly available. This could change once public comments to the Federal Register Docket that were due by March 15, 2024 are addressed. Many of the Document's posted comments have requested the calculation methods of the adjusted data be published.

Joseph Duckett asked if DEP performed an analysis of PM2.5 for Pennsylvania. Hallie Weiss referenced a slide on organic carbon speciation data from 2023. She explained the influence of the Canadian wildfire impacts on the monitoring data. Sean Nolan explained that his team will be doing an assessment using the Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) model, which will detail source groups based on speciation data from sites with speciation monitors throughout the state. The goal is to understand the sources and causes of elevated PM2.5 across Pennsylvania.

Christine Heath asked what the next steps are and when AQTAC might expect an update. Bryan Oshinski explained that DEP will need to analyze the data and design values after the T640 data is corrected. After those results are finalized, DEP may consider an exceptional event submittal to EPA (if such a submittal would show regulatory significance). Sean Nolan indicated that an exceptional event analysis for the days in June 2023 showing elevated PM2.5 levels because of wildfire smoke would likely reduce the annual design values for PM2.5 by a significant amount.

REPORT ON RULEMAKINGS/STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN REVISIONS

Chris Trostle, Environmental Group Manager, of the Air Resource Monitoring Division, provided a report on the status of proposed and final rulemakings, and state implementation plan (SIP) revisions.

John Tissue asked about the status of RACT II sanctions. John Krueger noted that highway sanctions, should they occur, will not start until September. The sanctions apply only to non-safety related transportation funding for the approximately 17 counties that have not been designated as being in attainment. DEP filed a motion with the Third Circuit Court to expedite EPA's review and associated ruling. DEP published revised permits for Montour, Conemaugh, Homer City, and Keystone, incorporating the Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) requirements. These permit revisions will be submitted to EPA as SIP revisions.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS / OPEN DISCUSSION

John Tissue opened the meeting for other AQTAC business/open discussion.

Old Business:

John Tissue mentioned that DEP created a SharePoint site for committee members to collaborate when reviewing documents, such as the source testing standard protocol. He reminded committee members to update their user identification, which is needed to associate comments/revisions with the respective owner. He also mentioned a group of AQTAC members are reviewing the emission inventory instructions document, which is also located on the SharePoint site. He asked other members interested in participating in the review of documents to reach out to Joe Martini to be added to the SharePoint group.

Joseph Duckett mentioned the University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health study. He is interested in exploring a possibility of a follow-up study to better understand the University of Pittsburgh research.

During the discussion, John Tissue asked whether a follow-up study would fall under the scope of AQTAC. After deliberation, a few Committee members volunteered to brainstorm ideas. Follow-up on progress for this group may be provided during the old business discussion at the next AQTAC meeting.

New Business:

John Tissue explained that many of DEP's guidance documents may need updates or there may be a need for new guidance documents. He sought interest from the Committee to volunteer to review existing guidance documents, compile a list of those needing updates or creation, and subsequently provide this list to DEP for revisions and development.

John Krueger said that DEP could come up with a prioritized list of commonly used guidance documents that would provide the most value to DEP to have reviewed. After some discussion, John Tissue asked Joe Martini to share a list of guidance documents available on eLibrary for AQTAC to review and suggest potential documents for review.

John Tissue mentioned the vote for AQTAC Chair and Vice Chair will occur at the next meeting. He proposed a group be organized to take nominations from committee members. A list of nominees would be available for each role at the meeting. Joe Martini agreed that this would be an acceptable way to organize nominations. John Tissue then asked for volunteers. John Shimshock and John Walliser volunteered.

Discussion

There was no further discussion.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

With no further business before AQTAC, John Tissue requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joseph Duckett made a motion to adjourn. Joseph Guzek seconded. John Tissue, hearing no opposition, so moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm.

The next AQTAC meeting is July 11, 2024.

Minutes prepared by Lucas Hershey Air Quality Program Specialist (AQPS). For additional information about AQTAC, please contact the AQTAC Liaison (RA-EPAQTAC@pa.gov) or by visiting the AQTAC Web page at:

<http://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Air/BAQ/AdvisoryGroups/Air-Quality-Technical-Advisory-Committee/Pages/default.aspx>