



Clean Cities Quarterly Update

Autumn 2007 Edition



Transportation & Air Quality News

HGB Reclassification Request: Gov. Perry has requested that the Houston Galveston Brazoria non-attainment be reclassified as "severe", with a new deadline for ozone attainment extending to 2019.

Anti-Idling Strategy: The Texas Transportation Institute has released a study which sets forth a national truck stop electrification strategy.

Bioenergy Group Formed: The American Biofuels Council has been formed "to coordinate communications and provide education for the advancement" of biomass derived products.

Bioenergy Initiative: Gov. Perry announced a bioenergy initiative, and awarded Texas A&M \$5 million dollars for additional research into developing and commercializing biofuels.

Mobile Source Rule Changes (p. 32 TexReg 4400): TCEQ has adopted a number of rule changes relating to conformity, the Texas Clean Fleet program, and light-duty vehicle purchase and lease incentives.

Ship Emissions Proposal Endorsed: The World Shipping Council will support a U.S. proposal to cut emissions on ocean-going ships, which is currently under consideration by the International Maritime Organization

Transportation & Air Quality News, Continued

LIRAP & TERP Changes (p. 32 TexReg 5315): TCEQ is proposing changes to the Low Income Repair Assistance Program & TX Emission Reduction Program in accordance with SB 12 requirements. Comments will be accepted through September 12, 2007.

Ozone Standard Proposal: The EPA has proposed lowering the 8-hour ozone standard to 0.070-0.075 ppm, and has suggested changes to the secondary standard. Comments will be accepted thru October 9, 2007.

Notice of Intent: The Army Corp of Engineers will be performing an EIS assessment on proposed improvements to the Freeport Harbor.

DEIS Available: The DEIS for METRO's University Corridor proposal is available for comment thru September 17, 2007.

Transportation NEPA Changes: The U.S. DOT is soliciting comments on proposed changes to their NEPA procedures. The comment period ends October 9, 2007.

Grant Program Changes: The Federal Transit Agency has proposed changes to the New Starts grant program, including the creation of a Small Starts grant category. Comments will be accepted thru November 1, 2007.

Local Announcements & Events

Ozone Standard Meeting: The EPA will be hosting a public meeting on the proposed revisions to the 8-hour ozone standard in Houston, TX on September 5, 2007.

Fleet Fueling Conference: OPIS is hosting their 13th annual Fleet Fueling Conference and Exhibit in Dallas, TX on September 9-11, 2007.

LIRAP & TERP Meeting (p. 32 TexReg 5315): A public hearing will be held in Houston, TX, on September 11, 2007, regarding proposed changes to the LIRAP & TERP programs.

APU Financing Guide: Cummins has published a new financing guide for fleet managers considering the purchase of an APU system.

TREIA Fair: Texas Renewable Energy Industry Association is hosting a Renewable Energy Roundup and Green Living Fair, in Fredericksburg, TX on September 28th-30th, 2007.

Biofuels Conference: The Greater Houston Partnership and U.K. Trade & Investment are hosting a biofuels conference in Houston on October 15, 2007.

Anti-Idling Calculator: Kensworth has posted an on-line "clean power calculator" to help fleet managers evaluate Kensworth's no-idle system.

Local Announcements & Events, Continued

Fuel Cell Conference: A fuel cell exposition and seminar will be held in San Antonio, TX on October 15-19, 2007.

Hybrid Webinars: The Alternative Fuel Vehicle Institute will be hosting a series of webinars on light-duty hybrids.

Clean Diesel Webinars: The Diesel Technology Forum is hosting two diesel retrofit webinars on Sept. 18-19, 2007.

Business Opportunities

H-GAC Buy Services: H-GAC's cooperative purchasing program has expanded its product lists to include school buses with cleaner emission engine specifications, diesel particulate filters, and crankcase filters.

AFV Trader: Alternative Fuel Vehicle Trader, www.afvtrader.com, is a website dedicated to the sale of government and private clean fleet vehicles.

DFW RFP: NCTCOG is soliciting proposals to implement an air quality public awareness campaign. Proposals are due by September 14, 2007.

EPA School Bus Funds: EPA is soliciting applications for school bus retrofit and replacement projects. The deadline for application is September 21, 2007.

Clean Air Awards: The Clean Air Act Advisory Committee is requesting nominations for the EPA Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. The deadline is September 21, 2007.

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Spotlight of Excellence

This quarter, we salute:

Klein ISD, for being awarded a Clean School Bus grant to replace one older engine with a new 2007-compliant engines.

Tomball ISD, for being awarded a Clean School Bus grant to replace one older engine with a new 2007-compliant engines.

Texas City ISD, for being awarded a Clean School Bus grant to replace one older bus with a new 2007-compliant bus.

Waller ISD, for being awarded a Clean School Bus grant to replace one older bus with a new 2007-compliant bus.

W. M. Dewey, for being awarded a Clean Vehicles grant to replace seven older engines with new 2007-compliant engines.

Cherry Concrete, for being awarded a Clean Vehicles grant to replace seven older engines with new 2007-compliant engines.

MAS Resources, for being awarded a Clean Vehicles grant to replace one older engine with a new 2007-compliant engine.

Fort Bend County, for being awarded a Clean Vehicles grant to replace five older engines with new 2007-compliant engines.

METRO, for approving the purchase of 100 additional hybrid-diesel buses and augmenting existing services with additional local and commuter trips

Question of the Quarter

No questions were submitted by readers during this quarter.

If you have a question that you would like answered, we invite you to submit it to us by emailing Christine.Smith@h-gac.com. Please include your name, your title, and your company/organization with your submission (if your question is selected, we will cite this information along with your question in the newsletter). Question selection will be based on the extent to which other readers may share interest in your inquiry and the timeliness of the topic; questions should also lend themselves to fact-oriented answers, rather than subjective or commentary-oriented answers. We appreciate your cooperation and participation, and we look forward to receiving your submissions!

Clean Air Product News

2010 Engine Certified: The Cummins ISL G engine has been certified to meet the 2010 EPA and CARB emission standards.

DPF Verified: CARB has certified a hybrid DPF by Rypos, Inc. as a Level 3 plus emission control device for emergency generators and pumps.

Verification Extended: CARB has expanded its certification of the Cleaire Horizon Electric Particulate Filter to include 2006 and certain pre-1993 model years.

Auxiliary Heaters Verified: Three auxiliary heaters produced by Espar Heater Systems have been verified by CARB as meeting their new idling emission standards.

Tires Certified: EPA has certified three new Goodyear tire models for use in the Smartway program.

Flow-Through Filter Verified: Thermo King's PDPF Level 2 Plus verification was extended by CARB as a retrofit for certain engines manufactured before 2002.

Eaton Hybrids Available: Eaton has announced that medium-duty hybrids are now commercially available and will be ready for delivery in 2008.

Mack Truck Certified: Mack's Pinnacle Long-Haul truck has been Smartway certified by the EPA.

H-GAC Program Highlights

H-GAC's Clean Cities/Clean Vehicles "Advancing the Choice: Flip this Fleet" Conference was held at the Stafford Center on June 27, 2007. Nearly 140 government, business, and non-profit representatives came together to learn about the latest in low-emission vehicles and strategies.

Presentations addressed topics such as:

- How engine manufacturers will meet the 2007 and 2010 emission standards
- Biodiesel quality and the Texas Bioenergy Initiative
- Experiences in utilizing natural gas refuse trucks and light-duty hybrid vehicles in the cities of Lake Jackson and Houston, respectively.
- Experiences in introducing E85 to HEB fueling stations.
- Clean fleet policy options and funding opportunities.

A break-out session for school districts, low-emission vehicle exhibits, networking, and great food were among the other highlights of the conference.

If you missed the conference, you can still get copies of the presentations and information by emailing Stephanie Lee at Stephanie.lee@h-gac.com.

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