

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

MINUTES
MAY 3, 2007, MEETING
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
FOUR POINTS SHERATON HOTEL
WASHINGTON, D.C

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Jenkins. In attendance were: John Duffy, Ken Fallows, Ivan Fende, Jim Gitz, Lurlin Hoelscher, Mike Linder, Jerry Johnson, Jimmy Kemp, Joe Palacioz, Bill Chegwidde, Chuck Hafter, Peggy Beltrone and Kathy Jimino from the LGAC. Mayor Randy Kelly, Anna Raymond, Loreto Tillery, Sonya Scott, of EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, and John Guy and Jennifer Keller of EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality.

SCAS History

After a brief introduction, the chairman turned to Jerry Johnson to give us a history of the SCAS and the LGAC. Jerry is the longest standing member of the committee having served on the LGAC and left for a number of years only to be asked to return because of his knowledge and understanding of small communities. He explained about the original LGAC and the difference between what they were able to do within the agency then and what we are accomplishing now. He also gave the history of the marriage of the SCAS and the LGAC.

Environmental Compliance

The Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance asked the LGAC to comment from a small community perspective on a piece they were writing on "Financing for Environmental Compliance" the Chairman asked Joe Palacioz from Hutchinson, Kansas, as a member of the SASC to reply. The piece related to "financing planning on a step-by-step basis involving environmental equipment and infrastructure systems". Joe gave us an overview on his answers and the suggestions he made. The agency was very grateful for the SCAS input. We will be working again with them as they finalize this document.

Small Drinking Water Affordability Guidance

The National Governors Association sent a letter to the agency regarding EPA's proposal to revise the "small system drinking water affordability guidance". There was as discussion surrounding this letter. This has been a constant issue for the SCAS and the LGAC. The rule that one size fits all just doesn't work, and the agency should look at alternative ways of testing for smaller communities. It was stated the LGAC sent a letter to Ben Grumbles in May of 2006 related to this issue.

The Legacy Diesel Fleet

John Guy, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Air and Radiation, Transportation and Regional Programs Division, Office of Transportation and Air Quality, and Jennifer Keller, Program Clean School Bus USA, Office of Air and Radiation, Compliance and

Innovations Strategies Division, Office of Transportation and Air Quality joined us to discuss “the Legacy Diesel Fleet” In January 2007, the LGAC commented on the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee’s (CAAAC) recommendations (dated April 10, 2006) reducing emissions from diesel engines and on the Diesel Legacy Fleet.

John and Jennifer presented a discussion on the “BIG 4” Rules:

1. Tier 2 Light Duty Vehicle Program 2004 – 2009
2. Heavy – Duty Highway Program 2007 – 2010
3. Tier 4 Non - road diesel Program 2008 - 2014
4. Locomotive and Marine 2012

The goal of the National Clean Diesel Campaign is to reduce emission from the legacy fleet of over 11 million diesel engines by 2014. To do that the focus will need to be on five sectors: School Buses, ports, construction, agriculture, and freight. There was discussion about the possibility of a LGAC member joining the CAAAC to give a local government perspective and perhaps someone joining the Retrofit Workgroup. John Guy had a conversation with the Co-Chair of the Clean Diesel and Retrofit Workgroup, Gay Mac Gregor and said she would be willing to work with us at any time. Jim Gitz and Joe Palacioz would like to remain active in this issue.

Cooperative Conservation

We then took up the issue of cooperative conservation. A number of years ago, Region 7 and it member states; particularly Nebraska did a document entitled “Compendium of State Assistance for Small Communities in EPA Region 7”. This was supposed to be the best programs in each state for small communities. The SCAS has always thought this would be a good template to use around the country to get other regions to use as a guide for assistance to small communities. We are taking a different approach. A few members of the SCAS are taking the document, reviewing it and deciding which programs are most beneficial to small communities and could be easily duplicated around the country. We will try and come up with three or four to forward to the agency for review and possible use.

General Issues

Ken Fallows brought up the Storm Water program, which is one of the Clean Water Priority Areas, in the Strategic Plan, and wanted to remind the group that this issue should not be forgotten.

A conversation ensued about the NPDES exemption rule, related to storm water discharges associated with oil, gas, coal bed methane and other related construction sites. This has been a continuing issue of interest and discussion within the group. The full LGAC after suggestion from the SCAS sent a letter to the Administrator on April 17,

2006 urging the agency to explain in greater detail the reason for exempting these industries from the rule. We received a response back on August 14, 2006.

We were reminded the SCAS was the engine behind the Great Lakes Initiative, and sent 2 letters to the agency on this issue with supporting information.

Jimmy Kemp wanted to remind everyone that he still feels that Small Communities are not getting enough attention in the clean watershed needs survey. He has been adamant about this for a long time.

Mayor Kelly asked what the group will be working on in the future

We are going to continue our review of the Diesel work and try to get a member of the SCAS or the LGAC on the Clean Diesel and Retrofit Workgroup

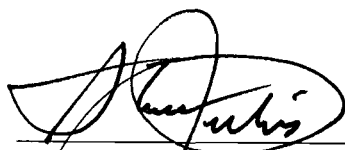
Follow-up with the Office of Environmental Compliance on our review of their financial planning on a step by step basis involving environmental equipment tin infrastructure systems.

Find three or four programs in Region 7's compendium which can be duplicated around the country.

Have SCAS members as they sit on other workgroups bring issues from those committees back to us to work on.

Have monthly conference calls, to discuss our progress and the progress of other workgroups our members sit on. This is where we can find new information for us to work on new projects as well.

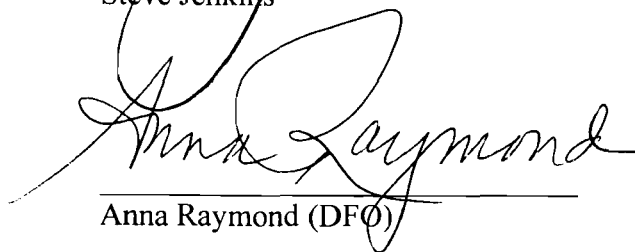
As submitted:



Steve Jenkins

6-4-07

Date



Anna Raymond (DFO)

June 7 - 2007

Date