

Air Quality Control Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2019 @ 9:00 am
Webinar held by MDE

AQCAC MEMBERS PRESENT

John Kumm, P.E., BCEE – Vice Chairman
Todd Chason, Esq.
Ben Hobbs
Jonathan Kays
Julian Levy
Hon. Leta Mach
Ross Salawitch, PhD
Lawrence (Larry) Schoen, P.E.
Sara Tomlinson
Robert Wright
Weston Young, P.E.

AQCAC MEMBERS ABSENT

John Quinn - Chairman
Sania Amr, M.D.
Stephen Bunker
Thomas Killeen

VISITORS

Andy Bodnarik - OTC
David Cramer - GenOn
Ed Much – Talen
Mike Danielson
Zack Gerdes
Anne Havemann
Lee Sanghyun

MDE-ARA

George (Tad) Aburn
Randy Mosier
Megan Ulrich, Esq.
Joshua Shodeinde
Chris Beck
Carolyn Jones, P.E.
Eddie Durant
Kathleen Wehnes
Bill Paul

This is a summary of the September 16, 2019, Air Quality Control Advisory Council Meeting and serves as a record of the Council's vote on regulatory action items. The meeting is recorded and the digital file is maintained by MDE/ARA. This digital file is considered public information and may be reviewed in its entirety by anyone who is interested in the details of the discussions.

MDE website:

<http://mde.maryland.gov/programs/workwithmde/Pages/AQCACmeetingminutes.aspx>

DRAFT

Mr. Tad Aburn, MDE Air Director opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the Air Quality Control Advisory Council (AQCAC or the Council) meeting at approximately 9:05 a.m. A roundtable introduction proceeded. Mr. John Kumm (Vice Chairman) served as the Chair for the webinar meeting. Approval of previous meeting minutes was not on today's agenda in the interest of time.

ACTION ON REGULATIONS

Cross-State Air pollution Rule COMAR 26.11.28.01 - .02

Mr. Randy Mosier presented the proposed new Regulations .01 - .02 under new Chapter COMAR 26.11.28 – “Cross-State Air Pollution Rule to Control Annual Nitrogen Oxides Emissions, Annual Sulfur Dioxide Emissions, and Ozone Season Nitrogen Oxides Emissions”. This new chapter will incorporate by reference (IBR) EPA’s Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) and CSAPR Update.

Mr. Mosier noted that Maryland is currently subject to CSAPR and CSAPR Update Federal Implementation Plans (FIPs) under 40 CFR 52.38, relating to emissions of nitrogen oxides, and 52.39 relating to emissions of sulfur dioxide. The proposed new Chapter will incorporate by reference, the existing federal regulations for CSAPR and CSAPR Update and the appropriate FIP references allowing the State to replace Maryland’s obligation with a State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Mr Kumm asked whether Maryland’s more stringent NOx EGU ozone season regulations would result in Maryland sources having more allowances to trade. Mr. Aburn responded that may be the case, and that is why Maryland is pursuing 126 and 184c petitions to ensure that NOx reductions are occurring from out-of-state on the days when reducing emissions matter most.

Motion to approve the proposed action was made by Mr. Bob Wright and seconded by Mr. Julian Levy. All members voted in favor, and none opposed, at approximately 9:25 a.m.

BRIEFINGS

Reductions in Methane at Natural Gas Compression Stations and Liquified Natural Gas Facilities

Mr. Tad Aburn presented a detailed briefing on “Minimizing Methane Emissions from Natural Gas Compressor Stations and other Related Equipment” to prepare the Council for the proposed regulation to be presented on December 16, 2019. Maryland’s methane programs are being initiated to reduce this highly potent greenhouse gas. Methane Emissions from the natural gas industry account for approximately 30% of all methane emissions in Maryland.

Mr. Aburn provided a background of the climate actions Maryland has taken to date including the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Acts (GGRA) of 2009 and 2016, the Maryland Commission on Climate Change (MCCC), and joining the U.S. Climate Alliance.

Maryland is considering proposed requirements to mitigate methane emissions through fugitive emissions detection and repair, and control measure requirements to limit emissions from

compressors and pneumatic devices. Leak detection and repair of pipes are the main drivers of methane reductions. There are distribution system concerns about natural gas leaking in Baltimore city with very old infrastructure. MDE sees this as a high priority piece of methane leakage and is still investigating. Mr. Aburn further covered the stakeholder process, comments received during this process and the schedule for regulatory adoption.

Reductions in Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)

Director Aburn presented a briefing on “Prohibition of Hydrofluorocarbons in Certain End-Uses”. This soon to be proposed action seeks to reduce hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) emissions by adopting specific United States Significant New Alternatives Policy Programs (SNAP) prohibitions for certain substances in air conditioning and refrigeration equipment, aerosol propellants, and foam end-uses. Mr. Aburn welcomed AQCAC members to be an active part of the stakeholder process for these two climate actions.

After Mr. Aburn provided an overview of the background, Megan Ulrich summarized existing EPA legal challenges and Joshua Shodeinde explained the HFC regulations format with end-use categories listed with HFC prohibitions and effective date of compliance.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. John Kumm and seconded by Mr. Julian Levy.
The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.