

**EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
East Texas Clean Cities Coalition (ETCCC)**

Steering Committee and Stakeholder Meeting

**Wednesday, October 13, 2004, 2:00 p.m.
Large Conference Room
East Texas Council of Governments
3800 Stone Road
Kilgore, Texas**

MINUTES OF MEETING

1) Call to Order: Clean Cities Coordinator Rick McKnight, ETCOG

Mr. McKnight called the meeting to order at approximately 2:00 p.m.

2) Welcome and Introduction

Attendees introduced themselves and stated the organization they represent.

Attendees

- Dietrich Johnson, City of Longview
- Shilpa Ravandi, Longview MPO
- Susan DeCell, Railroad Commission of Texas
- Jim Ross, Education Service Center
- Norman Schenk, Tyler Transit
- Rick McKnight, East Texas Council of Governments

3) Discussion and approval of ETCCC Steering Committee meeting minutes of August 11, 2004.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2004 ETCCC Steering Committee and Stakeholders meeting. A second was made and the minutes passed without any dissent.

4) Update on Alternative Fuel and Air Quality Activities, Legislation, and Funding Opportunities

Rick McKnight gave an update regarding relevant alternative fuel and air quality activities, legislation and current funding opportunities. A list of new resources and publications from the Alternative Fuels Data Center was distributed as well as copies of the Seattle Regional Office (SRO) of the U.S. Department of Energy funding opportunity newsletter.

5) Discussion and approval of plans for the November 18th Advancing the Choice Workshop in Longview

ETCCC will be holding it's annual alternative fuels workshop in the fall of 2004. This will be the third year a workshop has been held in East Texas. This year the workshop will be held in Longview at Maude Cobb Activity Center on November 18th and begin at approximately 9:00. Topics to be covered will include various fueling options such as CNG, propane, and biodiesel. Several companies that offer vehicle conversions will be in attendance including BAF Technologies and DRV Energy. Other companies that will be present include Eco-systems and Ultraco. Various funding opportunities for alternative fuel projects will also be covered. A sponsored lunch by BAF Technologies will be provided to attendees.

6) Discussion on TERP funding for FY 2005

TCEQ's TERP program will announce another opportunity to apply for funding in the fall of 2004. TERP is a comprehensive set of incentive programs aimed at improving air quality in Texas. The Emissions Reduction Incentive Grants Program provides grants to eligible projects in nonattainment areas and affected counties. The grants offset the incremental costs associated with reducing emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) from high emitting internal combustion engines. TCEQ Commissioners have agreed to a funding allocation approach that will ensure areas with State Implementation Plans (SIP) commitments are on target to meet their goals. Although the allocation amounts are tentative the eligible areas in East Texas are being allocated in excess of \$8 million through FY 2007. These allocations will be revisited for each fiscal year.

7) Other Business

The next meeting of the ETCCC Steering Committee will be on Wednesday, December 8, 2004, at 2:00 p.m. at the ETCOG Offices in Kilgore, Texas.

8) Wrap-up and Adjourn

There being no further items or suggestions, the meeting was adjourned and approximately 3:30 pm.