

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

Steering Committee and Stakeholder Meeting

**Wednesday, October 8, 2003, 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

- Tracy Harper, Texas Railroad Commission
- Kathy Bell, TCEQ-Tyler
- Jimmy Skeen, American Electric Power
- Roxanne McKinley, East Texas Council of Governments
- Mark Sweeney, East Texas Council of Governments
- Rick McKnight, East Texas Council of Governments

3) Discussion and approval of ETCCC Steering Committee meeting minutes of August 13, 2003.

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the August 13, 2003 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

An update was given by Rick McKnight 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. A list of available or nearing completion AFVs for Model Year 2004 was passed out to attendees. The list included vehicles from Honda, DaimlerChrysler, Ford, GM, Mercedes-Benz USA.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has announced the availability of grants for projects in the state's air quality non-attainment and near non-attainment areas. The goal of these grants is the reduction of emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NO_x). Eligible applicants include individuals, governmental agencies, non-profit entities, or private companies that own and operate on-road heavy-duty diesel vehicles or non-road diesel equipment, including marine vessels and locomotives, primarily in the non-attainment and near non-attainment areas of the state.

The National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium (NAFTC) is once again holding its National AFV Odyssey on April 2 in multiple locations. This is a nationwide event held on one day in multiple locations. Its purpose is to focus national attention on cleaner and more energy-efficient methods of transportation and show how powerful the choice to use advanced technology and AFVs can be. East Texas will consider participating as a future host site and planning coordinator. This event will be discussed at future meetings of the ETCCC.

5) ETCCC Program Plan Update

Rick McKnight stated that the DOE Regional Support Office had officially approved the ETCCC Program Plan submitted in February. The plan has been submitted to National Clean Cities Staff in Washington D.C. for approval. ETCCC has received comments regarding the plan from DOE and has begun addressing these comments in the Program Plan. Discussion followed on how to address the comments given by DOE. ETCCC anticipates being approved for official designation in the Fall of 2003.

6) Discussion and planning for an Advancing the Alternative Fuel Choice Event and Official Designation Ceremony in the Fall of 2003

ETCCC plans on holding an Advancing the Alternative Fuel Choice Event on November 21, 2003. The event will like take place in Tyler and be held at Harvey Convention Center. The purpose of this event is to offer one-stop shopping for fleet managers by bringing together vehicle manufacturers, dealers, fuel providers, and equipment suppliers to answer questions and showcase products. The Clean Cities Program has developed planning documents, information packets, and a PowerPoint presentation to help coordinators organize their events.

7) Other Business

The next meeting of the ETCCC Steering Committee will be on Wednesday, December 10, 2003, 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.