

AGENDA

The 21st meeting of the Joint Advisory Committee for the Improvement of Air Quality in the Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua / El Paso, Texas / Doña Ana County, New Mexico Air Basin

DATE: Wednesday, April 24, 2002
TIME: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
LOCATION: Santa Teresa Country Club
Santa Teresa, New Mexico

1. Welcome and Introductions Federal Co-Chairs
2. Presentation and approval of current agenda JAC Members
3. Approval of minutes of the December, 2001 JAC meeting JAC Members
- 4) Announcements
- 5) Consent Agenda and Written Updates

Old Business

Agreements:

- A) Archie Clouse will look into possible funding thru the EPA Border grant and other grant mechanisms to see how the proposed PM10 network in Juarez can be supported. CENICA can also be a source.
- B) The AQ report for the 3rd qtr-2001 needs to be sent to everyone.
- C) El Paso Electric will provide information re: brickkilns to brickkiln technical commission.
- D) Strategic Plan - The JAC Strategic Plan Technical Commission will meet to update the document. One-pagers ("fichas") need to be sent to Carlos and Maria del Pilar Leal.
- E) Address attainment redesignation resolution to JAC. A discussion is scheduled.
- F) Elaine Barron reminded all about the Children's Environmental Health Symposium— work through Health Technical Commission and will provide an update today.
- G) A letter will be sent from the JAC to Jorge Bolanos Cacho to follow up w/ PEMEX to assure the distribution of oxygenated gasoline this coming winter season. The letter will be signed by the JAC Co-chair on the Mexican side.
- H) The JAC needs to follow up on all work taking place with the brickmakers to provide more information on this technology as requested by SB 749.
- J) Clean Air Investment Fund Technical Commission continues development of the requirements for operating a CAIF.

6) Regular Agenda

A. Air Quality Report (10 minutes)

-Air Quality report for the 4th quarter 2001 (SLP, El Paso & Juarez)

Vincent Vigil
NMED

B. Cd. Juarez Air Quality Monitoring Network

-The Cd. Juarez Ambient Monitoring Network appears to be suffering from age and deterioration. Several CO and O3 monitors no longer function and funds are desperately needed to maintain the equipment. A report on the state of the Cd. Juarez monitoring network will be provided.

Gerardo Tarin
DGE

C. Cd. Juarez Oxyfuels Program (10 minutes)

Resent testing of Cd. Juarez fuels was conducted to determine if oxygenate continues to be used in Cd. Juarez during the Wintertime season in order to reduce CO concentrations. One of the JAC's early achievements was having PEMEX agree to distribute oxyfuels in Juarez. A report on analysis of Cd. Juarez gasoline will be presented.

Biol. Luis Carlos Salmeron
DGE
Jesus Reynoso
ECCHED

D. El Paso Summertime Fuels and Wintertime Oxyfuels Programs (15 minutes)

A special formulation of gasoline is distributed in El Paso in order to reduce the evaporation rate of gasoline distributed in El Paso. During Wintertime oxygenated gasoline is distributed to reduce CO concentrations. A report on both programs and enforcement policy will be presented.

Jesus Reynoso
EPCCHED

E. BECC/NADBANK Update (15 minutes)

Recent actions to modify the mandate at BECC/NADBANK may be beneficial to the activities of the JAC in regards resources available for air quality improvement projects. An update on recent

Scott Storment
Senior Program
Development Officer
NADBANK

discussions among participants in the BECC/NADBANK's governing bodies will be presented as well as recommendations to the JAC of what it needs to accomplish in order to participate in BECC/NADBANK funding.

E. NIEHS Conference Briefing (10 minutes)

In February, 2002 the National Institute for Environmental Health had a conference in the Paso del Norte to discuss the Children's Environmental Health Institute. A briefing on the conference and health based initiatives proposed as a result of this conference will be presented.

Elaine Barron, M.D.
Dr. Carlos Rincon, EDF

F. Border Technology Partnerships Program (15 minutes)

Applied Sciences Laboratory, Inc. is becoming actively involved in projects to improve air quality in the Paso del Norte Airshed as well as other initiatives to improve the quality of life along the U.S. - Mexico Border. A report on these activities will be presented.

Richard D. Jimenez
Ph.D., P.E., President
Applied Sciences
Laboratories, Inc.

G. El Paso Gasification Project (15 minutes)

The City of El Paso, Texas, and EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response are investigating the possibility of building an Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) plant (a highly efficient waste-to-energy system) in the border region to convert municipal and industrial solid waste materials into synthesis gas. Today's presentation will include a description of the project concept, discussion on the operation of gasification systems, projected environmental impacts, and project status.

Larry Gonzalez
City of El Paso
EPA Office of Solid Waste
& Emergency Response

H. El Paso Transportation Initiatives (15 minutes)

Congestion on El Paso roadways continues to be a problem for both commuters and air quality in the Paso del Norte. Initiatives to reduce congestion on the international bridges by promoting mass transit are picking up speed. A discussion on City of El Paso and Sun Metro Initiatives will be presented.

Stewart Ed
Transportation Specialist
Sun Metro

I. Cd. Juarez Mass Transit Initiatives (15 minutes)

To reduce mobile source emissions Cd. Juarez is initiating a mass transit program that increases ridership in mass transit systems as well as reduces roadway congestion. A report on this initiative will be provided.

Lic. Jose Reyes
Presidente Municipal
Cd. Juarez

J. Air Quality Tour of Cd. Juarez

NMED is touring a variety of sites in Cd. Juarez to scope out a level of binational cooperation between New Mexico and Cd. Juarez, Chihuahua.

Ralph Gruebel
Director Environmental
Protection Division, NMED

K. SB749 Brickkiln Report (5 minutes)

As a result of passage of SB749 during the 77th legislature the TNRCC is required to prepare a report on Brickmaking activities along the Texas Mexico Border to the State Legislature.

Stephen Niemeyer
Program Manager
TNRCC Border Affairs

L. Proposed Redesignation of El Paso's Nonattainment Classification (15 minutes)

An update on activities and issues surrounding redesignation of El Paso's Nonattainment Classification as an Area in Attainment of the NAAQS will be provided. Answers to several questions that have been raised to date will be provided.

Gerry Wolfe,
TNRCC SIP Development

M. JAC Resolution on Redesignation (15 minutes)

A JAC Technical Commission on the proposed redesignation of El Paso as an area in attainment of the NAAQS has been drafting a resolution stating the opinion of the JAC on this issue. The resolution as agreed upon by members of the JAC will be discussed and signed.

Archie Clouse,
TNRCC

7. Observations and Comments from the Public

JAC Federal Co-Chairs

8. Highlights and consensus items of the meeting.

JAC Federal Co-Chairs

9. Establishment of date for next meeting

JAC Federal Co-Chairs

10. Adjourn

JAC Federal Co-Chairs