

CAAAC, a group of stakeholders that advise EPA on air environmental issues, plans to convene a task force that will report to the subcommittee on the experiences of stakeholders who have been working in the title V permitting arena (*i.e.*, a “state of the title V programs” report). The draft report should reflect the perspectives of all stakeholder groups and should reflect an effort to answer two questions: (1) How well is the title V program performing, and (2) what elements of the program are working well/poorly? To satisfy these goals, the subcommittee is setting up a task force for this purpose. The task force will be made up of EPA and title V stakeholders and will host at least three public meetings to obtain information from stakeholders about how the program has been implemented.

B. How Do I Become a Member of the Task Force and What Is Required of Members?

The EPA is looking for a 12 to 24 member task force with balanced participation from industry, State/local agencies, and environmental groups. For industry, we are interested in plant personnel with direct title V experience and those who assist these personnel with title V permitting. For environmental groups, we are interested in organizations and members of the public with title V experience. The time commitment and duties for task force members will involve at least three all-day meetings to be held throughout the U.S. and include preparation and post-meeting duties. Duties will include preparing for and attending all meetings, sharing your own title V experiences, engaging with other meeting attendees, and assisting with drafting the report. Conference calls could be required in addition to the meetings.

The best candidates for the task force will be those with direct experience in title V permits and their implementation, those able to represent views of others in your stakeholder group (for example, a State or local agency having membership in a regional planning organization such as Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management or Western States Air Resources Council) and those who can commit to traveling to all three meetings. The EPA does not have funding to pay for travel. Please note that if you cannot be on the task force, but you have title V permitting experiences to share, we still encourage your participation in one of the three public meetings.

If you are interested in being considered for this task force, please submit your name, organization, telephone number, e-mail address, a short statement of your interest and qualifications, and your ability to fulfill the duties of the task force to Ray Vogel (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section) within 2 weeks of the date of this notice.

C. How Do I Participate in the Public Meetings?

We will post the day, time, and location of each meeting on the CAAAC Web site: www.epa.gov/oar/caaac/. We invite anyone with title V experience to share their perspectives with the task force at these meetings. The agenda will consist of hearing from each attendee and any questions the task force might have. Attendees will register when they arrive and be given a number. After some brief logistical remarks by the task force chair (no formal remarks will be made by the task force), we will call on the first registrant and proceed until we have heard from all attendees. Each attendee will be given 5 minutes to speak followed by time for the task force to ask questions or seek clarifications. People wishing to speak are encouraged to submit a brief summary of their title V experiences to Ray Vogel (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section) 2 weeks before the meeting, and you should bring a copy to submit at the public meeting. The meeting will be recorded and a transcript will be made and placed in the public docket. In your remarks, we ask that you focus on your experiences of what is working well in the title V program, what you feel is not working well and, if you choose, what remedy you recommend and how it would correct the concern(s) you identified. We encourage participants to give actual examples of your experiences with title V implementation including what is working well.

D. How Do I Find Out About These Public Meetings?

The EPA plans for at least three public meetings. The first is being planned for late June in the Washington, DC, area; the second in mid-September in Chicago; and the third next winter, likely late January 2005, in Phoenix, Arizona. You are requested to access the CAAAC Web site at www.epa.gov/oar/caaac/ for the dates and logistics of all future meetings. You may also contact Ray Vogel at (919) 541-3153.

E. How Do I Get Copies of the Draft Report of the Task Force and Other Public Information Related to the Task Force's Work?

The EPA has established a public docket for the CAAAC under docket ID No. A-94-34. The official public docket will consist of documents specifically related to the activities of the task force, including **Federal Register** notices, any written public comments received at the meetings, transcripts of public meetings, and the draft report of the task force. The public docket does not include confidential business information or any other information for which public disclosure is restricted by statute, and thus, you should not submit such information for the docket. The official public docket is a collection of materials available for public viewing at the Air Docket in the EPA Docket Center, (EPA/DC) EPA West, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the Air Docket is (202) 566-1742. A reasonable fee may be charged for copying.

Dated: May 6, 2004.

Gregory A. Green,

Acting Director, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7663-1]

Description of Program Changes for the National Environmental Performance Track

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency(EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice describes program changes for the National Environmental Performance Track program (“Performance Track”). These changes reflect experience gained during the program’s first three years of implementation, and are intended to improve the quality and effectiveness of the Performance Track program.

ADDRESSES: Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, U.S. EPA, Performance Incentives Division, Ariel Rios Building, Mailcode 1808T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20460. Additional information may be found at

the Performance Track Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/performance-track> or at the Performance Track Information Center 1-888-339-PTRK (7875).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Branagan, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, 202-566-2836 or by e-mail at branagan.michael@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- I. Introduction
- II. Program Changes
 - A. Defining Small Facilities
 - B. Independent Assessment of the EMS
 - C. Challenge Commitment Policy
- III. Advanced Notice of Additional Changes
- Corporate Membership

I. Introduction

On June 26, 2000, The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched the National Environmental Performance Track program ("Performance Track"). The program is designed to recognize and encourage top environmental performers—those who go beyond compliance with regulatory requirements to attain levels of environmental performance and management that benefit people, communities, and the environment. The program design was published in the **Federal Register** on July 6, 2000 (65 FR 41655).

While initial design of the Performance Track program was successful during the first three years of program implementation, experience has shown that some aspects of the design could be improved to better meet program goals. These improvements include broadening and deepening program membership, enhancing the program's value for creating a standard of achievement for its members, and promoting innovative performance-based approaches to protecting the environment. The following section describes these Performance Track program improvements. The program changes will become effective starting with those facilities applying to the program during the application period which began on February 1, 2004.

II. Program Changes

A. Defining Small Facilities

Currently, Performance Track defines a facility as small if the company, as a whole, is both a small business as defined by the Small Business Administration (65 FR 30386, May 15, 2000), and the facility itself employs fewer than fifty full-time employees. Currently the Small Business Administration defines a small business as having fewer than 500 employees. Small facilities participate in the

Performance Track program by demonstrating past achievements in one environmental aspect, rather than the two required by larger facilities, and with two future performance commitments rather than the four required for larger facilities.

To promote participation by small facilities, the EPA has changed the small facility designation to include any facility with fewer than fifty full-time employees. This provision would encourage small facilities in larger companies to participate in Performance Track. This re-definition removes the above Small Business Administration criterion. The requirement for small facilities to demonstrate past achievements in one environmental aspect and with two future performance commitments remains unchanged.

B. Independent Assessment of the EMS

The EPA is adding a criterion that applicants to Performance Track not certified under ISO 14001 conduct an independent assessment of the facility's Environmental Management System (EMS) within three years prior to application.

The EPA believes that an independent assessment will increase the public's confidence in the quality of the EMS, and the Performance Track membership, without imposing much additional work or expense on potential applicants.

Independent assessments will not require formal third-party certification. New Performance Track facilities can select from a number of options for an independent party assessment of their EMS, including a pre-acceptance site visit conducted by the EPA, assessment by a qualified auditor, or a corporate audit, among others.

More details on the independent assessment criteria are available on the Performance Track Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/performance-track>.

C. Challenge Commitment Policy

The EPA recognizes that environmental priorities vary by region. For example, water efficiency may be especially important in one region, while urban air quality may be a top priority in another. The EPA also recognizes that Performance Track facilities have the potential to help address local and regional environmental priorities.

In order to challenge Performance Track member facilities to respond to regional environmental priorities while also addressing their own significant environmental aspects, renewing Performance Track members can receive double credit for addressing a regional

environmental priority in their performance commitments. The EPA Regions will have the discretion to designate "Challenge Commitments" that correspond to regional environmental priorities.

In deciding whether to use a "Challenge Commitment", the EPA believes that facilities should focus first on those environmental aspects that are affected by their individual activities. Performance Track applicants should then determine whether potential performance commitments, with related objectives and targets as identified in their EMS's, also align with EPA Regional environmental priorities.

A renewing Performance Track member making a Challenge Commitment may, with the agreement of the relevant EPA Regional office, count that single commitment as two future performance commitments. Thus, such a facility need only make three future commitments, rather than the normal four, so long as one of the commitments addresses a regional priority.

The Challenge commitment option will only be available to larger facilities, because small facilities already are allowed a reduced number of commitments.

Challenge commitments will be chosen by the EPA Regional offices in consultation with state and local governments. Regional offices may choose not to establish a challenge commitment. When designating a challenge commitment, a Region will identify no more than one category (e.g. Air Emissions, Discharges to Water, etc.) and no more than two environmental aspects (e.g. NO_x, SO_x, etc.) within that category. The commitment must have a minimum quantitative target and will be memorialized in a memorandum to the EPA Headquarters from the Regional Administrator.

III. Advanced Notice of Additional Changes

Corporate Membership

The EPA will enhance the current Performance Track program by adding a corporate recognition component for companies that participate substantially in the facility program and whose performance, practices, and policies at a corporate level meet criteria associated with environmental excellence.

The establishment of a corporate designation within Performance Track will allow the Performance Track program to more effectively engage corporate leaders and promote the goals of the program, while giving the EPA an opportunity to encourage and recognize

corporate leadership. Additionally, corporate membership will allow the EPA to explore broad and innovative approaches to achieving environmental benefits stemming from corporate-level decisions, such as supply chain management and product stewardship.

The criteria for corporate members are expected to include: participation by a substantial number of their facilities in Performance Track or similar State programs and commitment to increase this participation over time. The EPA believes this link between the corporate and facility programs will encourage stronger corporate-level commitment to Performance Track and performance excellence. Other criteria would parallel those that Performance Track currently applies to facilities, with a greater emphasis on companies working with their suppliers and customers to achieve environmental improvements.

EPA expects to solicit applications for this program later in 2004.

Dated: April 27, 2004.

Jessica Furey,

Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation.

[FR Doc. 04-11111 Filed 5-14-04; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7662-5]

Meeting of the Mobile Sources Technical Review Subcommittee

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given that the Mobile Sources Technical Review Subcommittee (MSTRS) will meet in June 2004. This is an open meeting. The meeting will include updates on workgroup activities, a discussion of technical issues associated with the proposed Locomotive/Marine diesel engine Rule, and a presentation on powertrain engineering and hydraulic hybrid research being conducted at EPA's National Vehicle and Fuel Emissions Laboratory. The preliminary agenda for the meeting, as well as the minutes from the previous (December 2003) meeting will be posted on the Subcommittee's Web site: http://www.epa.gov/air/caaac/mobile_sources.html. MSTRS listserver subscribers will receive notification when the agenda is available on the Subcommittee Web site. To subscribe to

the MSTRS listserver, go to <https://lists.epa.gov/cgi-bin/lyris.pl?enter=mstrs>. The site contains instructions and prompts for subscribing to the listserver service.

DATES: Wednesday, June 9, 2004 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the National Vehicle and Fuel Emissions Laboratory, 2000 Traverwood Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105, (734) 214-4311.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For technical information: Dr. L. Joseph Bachman, Designated Federal Officer, Transportation and Regional Programs Division, Mailcode 6406J, U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460; Ph: 202-343-9373; e-mail: bachman.joseph@epa.gov.

For logistical and administrative information: Ms. Kimberly Derksen, FACA Management Officer, U.S. EPA, 2000 Traverwood Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105, Ph: 734-214-4272; FAX: 731-214-4958; e-mail: derksen.kimberly@epa.gov.

Background on the work of the Subcommittee is available at <http://transaq.ce.gatech.edu/epatac/>, and more current information is found at: http://www.epa.gov/air/caaac/mobile_sources.html.

Individuals or organizations wishing to provide comments to the Subcommittee should submit them to Dr. Bachman at the address above by June 4, 2004. The Subcommittee expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted oral or written statements.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: During the meeting, the Subcommittee may also hear progress reports from some of its workgroups as well as updates and announcements on activities of general interest to attendees.

Margo Tsirigotis Oge,

Director, Office of Transportation and Air Quality.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7662-9]

Science Advisory Board Staff Office; Notification of Upcoming Science Advisory Board Meetings

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office is announcing public meetings of the SAB Contaminated Sites and RCRA Multi-Year Plan Advisory Panel (CS and RCRA Panel), and the SAB Environmental Engineering Committee (EEC).

A. SAB CS and RCRA Panel Meetings

June 10, 2004. The SAB CS and RCRA Panel will meet by conference call from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (eastern time). The purpose of this call is to provide the Panel with an overview of the EPA's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Multi-Year Plan and its Contaminated Sites Multi-Year Plan. The charge to the Panel will be presented and discussed on this call.

June 17, 2004. The SAB CS and RCRA Panel will meet by conference call from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (eastern time). The purpose of this call is to provide briefings relating to the two Multi-Year Plans that will help orient the Panel to the material.

June 24, 2004. The SAB CS and RCRA Panel will meet by conference call from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (eastern time). The purpose of this call is to continue the overview of the two Multi-Year Plans and to provide additional briefings relating to the two Multi-Year Plans to orient the Panel to the material.

July 7-9, 2004. The SAB CS and RCRA Panel will meet face-to-face starting Wednesday July 7 at 9:00, adjourning no later than 4 p.m. (eastern time) Friday July 9. The purpose of this meeting is to complete the Panel's advisory on the two multi-year plans.

August 5, 2004. The SAB CS and RCRA Panel will meet by conference call from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (eastern time). The purpose of this call is to finalize its advisory report on the two Multi-Year Plans.

B. SAB EEC Meeting.

July 6, 2004. The EEC will meet face-to-face from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (eastern time) to discuss potential FY2005 activities.

ADDRESSES: Participation in the teleconference meetings will be by teleconference only—a meeting room will not be used. The face-to-face meetings will be held at the Science Advisory Board Conference Center located at 1025 F Street, NW., Suite 3705, Washington, DC 20004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Members of the public who wish to obtain the call-in number and access code to participate in the teleconference meetings may contact the EPA Science Advisory Board Staff at (202) 343-9999