

Minutes
Environmental Protection Committee
College of Coastal Georgia
Southeast Georgia Conference Center
Altamaha/Satilla Rooms
One College Drive
Brunswick, GA 31520

January 31, 2014

Attending:

Committee Members

Ray Lambert, Chairman
William Bagwell, Vice Chairman
Nancy Addison
Phyllis Johnson
Aaron McWhorter
Mark Mobley
Mark Phelps
Rob Leebern, Board Chairman, ex-officio

Board Members

Duncan Johnson
Paul Shailendra
Bodine Sinyard
Brother Stewart
Philip Watt
Philip Wilheit
Dee Yancey

Visitors

Megan Desrosiers, One Hundred Miles
Tate Holbrook, CCGA
Ashlee Ellis, Ducks Unlimited
Daniel Parshley, Glynn Environmental Coalition
David Stasek, College of Coastal Georgia
Keith Belcher, College of Coastal Georgia
Phillis George, College of Coastal Georgia
Duane Harris

Staff Members

Mark Williams
Jud Turner
Homer Bryson
Spud Woodward
Dan Forster
Becky Kelley
Eddie Henderson
Steve Friedman
Kyle Pearson
Lauren Curry
Cathy Barnette
Taylor Brown
Doug Haymans
Pat Geer
Jan MacKinnon
Jeff Cown
Keith Bentley
Brad Gane
Karl Burgess

The January 31, 2014 meeting of the Environmental Protection Division was called to order by Chairman Rob Leebern.

Chairman Leebern called on Ray Lambert, Chairman of the Environmental Protection Committee.

Chairman Lambert called on Keith Bentley, Chief of the Air Protection Branch, to present the proposed amendments to Rules for Enhanced Inspection and Maintenance, Chapter 391-3-20, pertaining to federal updates.

Mr. Bentley stated the Inspection and Maintenance Rules were last updated in 2007. He further stated the purpose of the revision is to be consistent with Federal rules and the Georgia Motor Vehicle Emissions Inspection and Maintenance Act and to add definitions needed due to advances in technology or that are missing.

Mr. Bentley stated the committee was briefed on the amendments in September. He further stated a public hearing was held in October 2013 as well as January 2014.

Mr. Bentley stated he would request the committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

Chairman Leebern asked if moving from non-attainment to attainment affects the inspection process.

Mr. Bentley stated the Inspection Maintenance Program is still a part of EPD's Maintenance Plan. He further stated EPD is attainment for the 2007 standard and marginally non-attainment for the 2008 standard.

Discussion ensued on this topic.

Chairman Lambert called on Mr. Johnson to comment.

Mr. Johnson stated he would like to thank EPD for working with the automobile industry and that he believes this is a good rule change.

Mr. Lambert stated he would like to thank Mr. Bentley and EPD for working with the automobile industry on this issue.

A motion was made by Mr. McWhorter, seconded by Ms. Addison and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the Resolution to approve the proposed amendments to the Rules for Enhanced Inspection and Maintenance, Chapter 391-3-20, pertaining to federal updates, as presented.

Mr. Bentley stated he would brief the Board on the Proposed Repeal of Rules for Clean Fueled Fleets, Chapter 391-3-22 and the Proposed Amendments to Rules for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1, pertaining to gasoline marketing, consumer and commercial products, and emergency generators for data centers, together.

Mr. Bentley stated air quality is improving and may be better than it has ever been since measurements began by EPD. He further stated in December of 2013 the Atlanta area was officially declared attainment for the standard by EPD. He added EPD has seen dramatic reductions in the number of ozone violation days over the past three years.

Mr. Bentley stated that because of improved air quality and projected emission trends, EPD is in a position to provide some regulatory relief while still protecting the air quality. He further stated the proposed amendments will reduce the regulatory burden of the regulated community, provide administrative relief to EPD, and respond to Governor Deal's 2012 Executive Order regarding burdensome regulations.

Mr. Bentley stated the proposed rule change would be out for public notice in February and a public hearing would be held in March. He further stated EPD anticipates requesting adoption of the proposed amendments by the Board at the March Board meeting.

Chairman Lambert called on Jud Turner, Director of the Environmental Protection Division, to comment.

Director Turner stated he appreciates the Air Branch and their technical expertise which has allowed EPD to make these changes.

Mr. Stewart asked if there is a federal requirement to place air monitors in each area.

Mr. Bentley stated there were federal requirements.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.