

Minutes
Environmental Protection Committee
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
Suite 1252 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

October 28, 2014

Attending:

Committee Members

Ray Lambert, Chairman
Walter Hudson, Vice Chairman
William Bagwell
Dwight Davis
Dwight Evans
Phyllis Johnson
Aaron McWhorter
Paul Shailendra
Philip Wilheit, Jr., Board Chair, ex-officio

Board Members

Duncan Johnson, Jr.
Rob Leebern
Mark Mobley
Bodine Sinyard
Brother Stewart
Philip Watt
Dee Yancey

Visitors

Phil Zinsmeister, Sierra Club
Andrew Schock, The Conservation Fund
Brant Lane, HHNT
Rosa Chi, Georgia Power Company
Ronny Just, Georgia Power Company
Walter Jones, Morris News
Harold Reheis, Joe Tanner and Associates
Chris Manganiello, Georgia River Network
Michael Pisciotta, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Amanda Carroll, GEFA
Leigh Elkins, Carl Vinson Institute/UGA
Doug Fulle, Oglethorpe Power Corporation
John Eberhart, Georgia Earth Alliance
Sally Kilpatrick, Georgia Chamber
Debbie Phillips, Georgia Industry Environmental Coaliton

Staff Members

Mark Williams
Jud Turner
Homer Bryson
Dave Crass
Eddie Henderson
Becky Kelley
Steve Friedman
Kyle Pearson
Mary Kathryn Yearata
Cathy Barnette
Taylor Brown
Mary Walker
Russ Pennington
Doralyn Kirkland
Doug Haymans
John Bowers
Stephen Adams
Mike England
Keith Bentley
Jeff Cown
Bert Langley
Mark Whitney
Terry West
John Martin
Jeff Weaver
DeLana Powell
Hugh Sledge
Michael Chadwell
Chuck Mueller
Emily Bennett
Travis Cartoski
Jennifer Welte
Joel Mims

Matthew Smith, Georgia Farm Bureau

Leah Barnette, Georgia Conservancy

Vince Dooley

The October 28, 2014 meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee was called to order by Chairman Philip Wilheit.

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

Chairman Lambert requested there be an amendment to the Agenda. He stated the purpose of the amendment would be to add "Item F" under Tab C. He further stated "Item F" would be a briefing on the proposed Waters of the U.S. Rule to be presented by Directory Turner.

Chairman Lambert called for a motion to amend the Agenda by adding "Item F" under Tab C.

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. McWhorter and carried unanimously to amend the agenda.

Chairman Lambert stated the amendment to the Agenda must be approved by the Board of Natural Resources.

Chairman Lambert requested Chairman Wilheit adjourn the Environmental Protection Committee.

The meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee was temporarily adjourned by Chairman Lambert so that the Board of Natural Resources could vote on the amendment of the agenda.

The meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee was reconvened by Chairman Wilheit, who called on Chairman Lambert.

Chairman Lambert called on Keith Bentley, Chief of the Air Protection Branch, to present the proposed Grant Criteria for Georgia Diesel Emissions Reduction Program.

Mr. Bentley stated the purpose of this grant is to reduce particulate emissions by assisting public school systems with school bus replacements. He further stated the grant is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Clean Diesel Campaign. He added the amount of funding currently available for this program is \$147,888.

Mr. Bentley requested the Committee recommend that the Board approve the item as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. McWhorter and carried unanimously that the Committee recommend that the Board approve the proposed Grant Criteria for Georgia Diesel Emissions Reduction Program, Chapter 391-3-21-.15, as presented.

Mr. Bentley stated the next item would be a briefing on the proposed amendments to the Rules for Air Quality Control, pertaining to the Removal of Fine Particulate Matter Nonattainment New Source Review Requirements.

Mr. Bentley stated the purpose of this revision is to remove the nonattainment permitting requirements for the Macon Area (Bibb County and a portion of Monroe County) and for Floyd County, as these two areas have been designated from nonattainment to attainment for the fine particulate matter ambient air quality standard. He further stated the revision will reduce the administrative burden to EPD and will reduce costs to major industrial sources and utilities that wish to locate or expand in these areas.

Mr. Bentley stated a public hearing will be held in December 2014. He further stated EPD anticipates requesting adoption of this Rule from the Board in January 2015.

Chairman Lambert stated the information for Item C (Proposed Amendments to the Rules for Radioactive Materials, Chapter 391-3-17, pertaining to miscellaneous changes and updates) could be found in the board package. He further stated the proposed amendments are clarifications and/or routine updates necessary to address requirements of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for Agreement states. He added no presentation is planned for this agenda item and Mr. Bentley will be available to answer any questions you have about these materials.

Chairman Lambert called on Bert Langley, Director of Compliance, who gave an informative presentation on EPD's District Offices and Emergency Response Team.

Ms. Johnson thanked Mr. Langley for his presentation.

Discussion ensued on the disposal and uses of scrap tires collected by EPD.

Chairman Lambert called on Russ Pennington, EPD Director of Policy and Public Affairs, who updated the Board on the Aquifer Storage and Recovery Pilot Project.

Mr. Pennington stated the project calls for withdrawing water from the Floridan Aquifer when water is plentiful and pumping it deeper into the ground into the Claiborne and Clayton Aquifers. He further stated the drill rig is now on site and coring samples have been taken. He also discussed the ASR project schedule timeline.

Discussion ensued about the ASR pilot project.

Chairman Lambert called on Director Jud Turner who gave a briefing on the Proposed Waters of the U.S. Rule.

Discussion ensued on the proposed rule.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.