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# TACB Bulletin

6330 HWY. 290 EAST AUSTIN, TEXAS 78723 512/451-5711 OCTOBER 1981

## TRIPLE B HEARING SET IN DUBLIN

The TACB will conduct a hearing in Dublin, Dec. 9, to consider the appeal of an exemption permit granted by the executive director to Triple B Fertilizer Corp. for construction of a fertilizer storage and blending facility. The hearing is scheduled at 6 p.m. at the Dublin City Council Chambers, 213 East Black Jack.

## DUPONT BUBBLE HEARING SLATED

A public hearing will be conducted, Dec. 3, in Orange to receive testimony concerning an alternate emissions reduction (bubble) project by E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co., Inc. The executive director has approved DuPont's proposal to remove several tanks and two loading racks from service in lieu of placing otherwise required controls on three storage tanks. Scheduled at 6 p.m. at the Orange City Public Library, 220 North 5th Street, the hearing will determine if the reduction meets federal requirements for SIP revisions.

## SAMPLES TAKEN IN DEER PARK

The TACB is concluding its extensive sampling program in Deer Park to determine the presence of chemical substances identified as possible causative agents for several cases of skin rash reported in the community. The Source Evaluation Section is completing sampling and chromatographic analysis with the agency's mobile van; and the Houston regional office has collected more than 130 air, soil, and vegetation samples. The agency's laboratory will analyze the samples for the presence of approximately 19 different substances that have been identified as possible skin irritants. A final report on the sampling should be completed during the first quarter of 1982.

## PSD PERMITS SENT TO EPA

Three prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) permits were mailed to the EPA in October: a refinery expansion at Champlin Petroleum Co. in Corpus Christi; a coke plant at Airco Carbon Division, Inc., in Seadrift; and a carbon dioxide recovery and purification plant for Production Operations, Inc., at Fort Stockton.

Two of the permits required approximately six months for TACB staff to prepare, and one required less than three months. The EPA has issued one permit, and the other two are expected to be issued soon. Four other permits are in the public notification period.

Since receiving delegation to perform technical review of PSD permits, April 23, the TACB has received 34 applications for new permits and six applications for modifications to permits previously issued by the EPA. Four of the applications subsequently were withdrawn.

## LEAD PLANS SUBMITTED

The four facilities affected by the lead state implementation plan (SIP) have submitted either a monitoring plan or a point source control plan, as required, to control lead emissions.

Gould, Inc., in Frisco submitted a point source control plan, which will be presented to the board in January for approval.

ESB (Exide, Inc., Dallas) has ceased production but submitted a monitoring plan to be implemented if production resumes. The plan has been approved by the agency.

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## TACB Bulletin

Houston Lead in Houston submitted an unacceptable point source control plan, which was returned to the company with a request for revision. The company, however, plans to close permanently.

Dixie Metals Co. in Dallas has submitted a revised monitoring plan following issuance of a notice of violation because of the facility's failure to submit an acceptable plan. If the plan is approved, the company will start monitoring within 60 days for a one-year period.

### THREE CASES DECIDED

The courts have ruled in three cases affecting the TACB.

In the Pelican Island Terminal case, the Texas Court of Civil Appeals upheld the board and district court's decision that vessels should not be considered part of the onshore facilities when evaluating the permit application for those facilities.

On Sept. 3, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals upheld the ozone standard of .12 parts per million established by the EPA in January, 1979, against challenges by the American Petroleum Institute and other petitioners, including the City of Houston.

The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, Oct. 30, denied the petitions of the City of Seabrook and others challenging EPA's approval of the Texas SIP revisions for nonattainment areas. Features of the plan revisions challenged included the sufficiency of House Bill 726 of the 66th Texas Legislature as it relates to automobile inspection and maintenance in Harris County and provisions for alternative analysis for new major sources, also in Harris County.

### 1982 SIP DISCUSSED IN HOUSTON

TACB staff and contractors showcased study results relative to development of the 1982 SIP revisions for Harris County, Oct. 16, in Houston.

Board members, several members of the House Environmental Affairs Committee, industrial representatives, and interested public heard study reports profiling: ozone measurements in Harris County, 1980 emissions in Harris County, emissions reductions needed to satisfy EPA requirements as indicated by the EPA EKMA model, cost and feasibility of additional emission reductions from stationary and transportation-related sources, and calculated population risk resulting from ozone exposure.

Estimated 1980 hydrocarbon emissions for Harris County are 229,000 tons per year. Of this total 157,000 tons come from stationary sources and 72,000 tons from motor vehicles.

Depending upon the assumptions made in applying the EKMA model, emissions reductions needed to demonstrate attainment of the ozone standard by 1987 range anywhere from 24 to 55 percent. Staff estimates a 30 percent reduction in hydrocarbon emissions by 1987 from TACB regulations currently in force and from the Federal Motor Vehicle Control Program. The addition of certain feasible controls, identified in a Radian Corp. study, is expected to reduce emissions from industrial sources by another 10 percent by 1987.

(For copies of contractor reports from Arthur Young & Co., Roy F. Weston, Inc., Radian Corp., and the Houston-Galveston Area Council contact:

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Lynn Nagy at the TACB central office, ext. 339. A more comprehensive story on the 1982 SIP development will appear in the winter issue of Clear Blue.)

## BOARD MEETS

The full board convened for its regular monthly session following the joint session of the Monitoring and Research and Regulation Development committees where the SIP status reports were presented.

The TACB hearing examiner's report on the H.T.C. Industries, Inc., hearing was removed from the agenda because a continuance was granted. The report will be presented, Nov. 20, when the board meets in Austin.

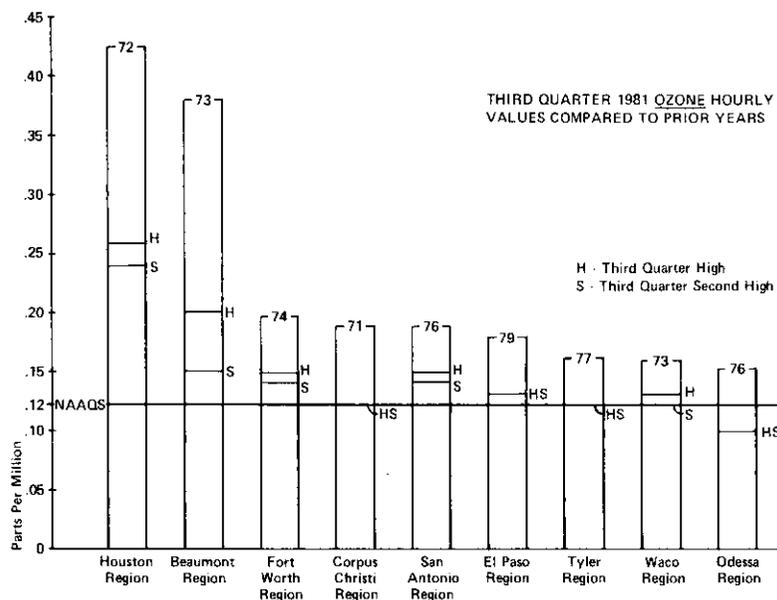
Board member Vittorio K. (Vic) Argento, who attended the Bi-national Border Governors' Conference, Oct. 5-6, in El Paso as the governor's representative, said the group adopted recommendations including two related to air issues: 1) Expand existing highly successful air quality monitoring programs in the border states and continue the introduction of more modern monitoring equipment. Primary emphasis will be the monitoring for toxic materials, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, and ozone. 2) Establish a borderwide personnel exchange and training program to maximize technical expertise and facilitate the use of environmental sampling and analysis equipment.

Executive Director Bill Stewart introduced members of the House Committee on Environmental Affairs subcommittee charged with oversight of the TACB. The subcommittee will monitor the drafting of the 1982 SIP for Harris County and monitor changes in the Federal Clean Air Act. They also will develop a research project studying the effects of air pollution on health to determine what poses a health hazard and to study disposal of hazardous wastes and low level wastes by methods, such as incineration, which may affect air quality.

## Air quality summary third quarter, 1981

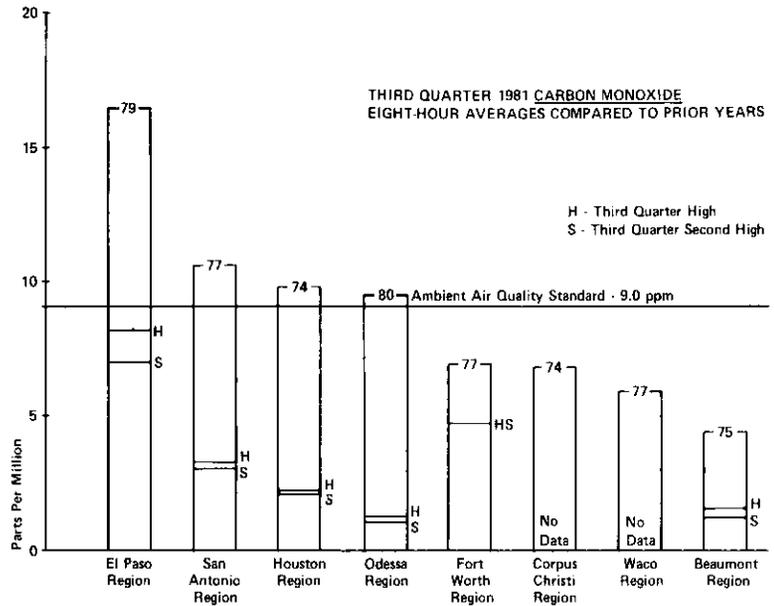
### OZONE

This graph compares 1981 third quarter high and second high values to the previous high for each region. The national ambient air quality standard for ozone is a daily, maximum, hourly average of .12 parts per million, not to be exceeded more than an average of once per year during any three year period. A value greater than .12 parts per million was reached in all areas except the Odessa region in the third quarter. These high values were caused primarily by summer temperatures which accelerate ozone formation.



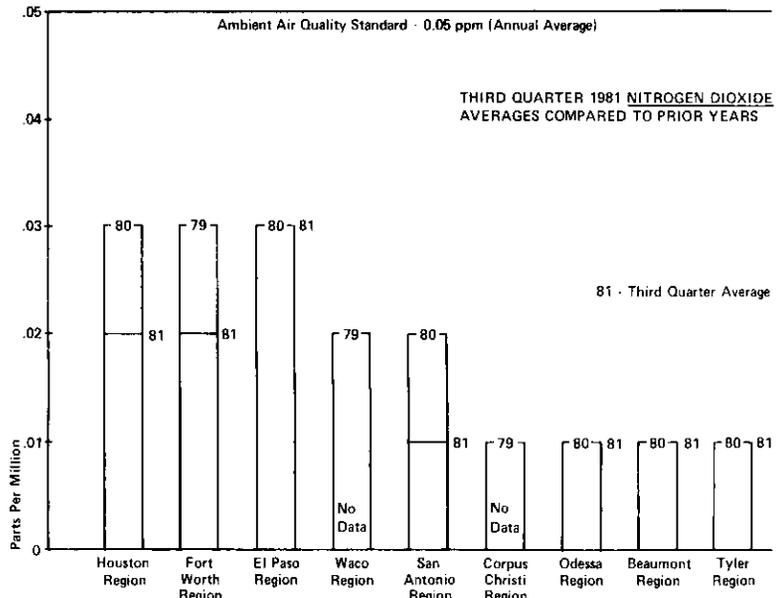
## CARBON MONOXIDE

The national ambient air quality standard for carbon monoxide is nine parts per million for an eight hour average, not to be exceeded more than once per year. The 1981 third quarter graph of high eight hour averages indicates no regions exceeded the standard. Higher averages than in previous quarters were attributed to increased automobile use.



## NITROGEN DIOXIDE

The national ambient air quality standard for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) is a .05 parts per million annual average. This graph presents 1981 third quarter NO<sub>2</sub> averages compared to the highest regional annual averages ever recorded. The quarterly averages are well below the standard and are generally equivalent to 1981 second quarter averages.



## SULFUR DIOXIDE

The national ambient air quality standard for sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) is .5 parts per million for a three hour average, not to be exceeded more than once per year. This graph compares 1981 third quarter high and second high SO<sub>2</sub> values to the regional, annual high SO<sub>2</sub> values. The SO<sub>2</sub> standard was not exceeded this quarter, although the values were generally higher than the previous two quarters.

