



MECKLENBURG COUNTY

- *Air Quality Commission* -

The virtual AQC meeting was held using [WebEx](#) on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 11:30 a.m.

Air Quality Commission Members Absent

Janet Garner-Mullins Terry Lansdell

Mecklenburg County Air Quality Staff Present

Ieshishua Pierce Megan Green Jason Rayfield Danielle Jones Aaron Matijow Chuck Greco
Tori Jercich Ivonne Hernandez Sheldon Turner Kelly Grass Leslie Rhodes

1. Call to Order

Chair Peter McGrath called the meeting to order at 11:31 a.m.

Fern Paterson and Marcus Hackler joins the meeting at 11:32 a.m.

Roll Call of the Air Quality Commission Members

Air Quality Commission Members Present

Peter McGrath Gordon Miller Garrison Scruggs Brian Magi Marcus Hackler
Rosa Mustafa Jamie Watts Lisa Hooker Fern Paterson

Special remarks from AQC

The Air Quality Commission extends thoughts and sympathy to Rev. Janet Garner-Mullins and her family with the passing of her husband.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chair McGrath asked for a motion for the approval of the March AQC meeting minutes.

Action Taken:

Motion: A motion was made to approve the March AQC meeting minutes as written.

Made: The motion was made by Gordon Miller and seconded by Rosa Mustafa.

Vote: The motion was adopted unanimously by a roll call vote.

3. Public Comments to the Air Quality Commission (AQC)

Action Required: Open Public Comment Period

A. Air Quality Permit Reviews

Public comment on the proposed permits will be received at this time. The Air Quality Commission opens public comment for air quality permit reviews per Mecklenburg County Air Pollution Ordinance, Regulation 1.5213 – “Action on Application; Issuance of Permit”. Inclusion on the AQC agenda does not imply or infer any action or opinion by the AQC or its members regarding any permit.

Chair McGrath, opened the public comment period for the facilities below, providing notice of the Mecklenburg County Air Quality’s (MCAQ) intent to issue/modify their air quality permit(s):

Facility Name	Facility Address	Action Type
Snyder's-Lance, Inc.	8600 Crump Road, Charlotte, NC 28273	Open Public Comment
Blue Dot – Exchange Street	1022 Exchange Street, Charlotte, NC 28208	Information Only
Concrete Supply Co., LLC (North Plant)	3823 Raleigh St, Charlotte, NC 28206	Information Only
Genpak Headquarters/Packaging Manufacturing Plant	10601 Westlake Dr, Charlotte, NC 28273	Information Only
Kurz Transfer Products, L.P. (Huntersville Facility)	11836 Patterson Road, Huntersville, NC 28078	Information Only

Jason Rayfield, Permitting & Enforcement Program Manager, was available to answer questions.

B. General Comments to the Commission

None

Aaron Levy joins the meeting at 11:41 a.m.

4. Request for AQC Action on 2020 Annual Report

Megan Green, Mobile Source Program Manager, informed the AQC members that the 2020 Annual AQC report was emailed to the AQC members for review before today's meeting. There have been no additional comments received from AQC members and the report has been updated to reflect all feedback from the County's Editorial Board review. The AQC members were informed that the 2020 Annual AQC Report needed to be approved before the written report is submitted to the Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC).

Action Taken:

Motion: A motion was made to approve the 2020 Annual Report and submit the written report to the BOCC.

Made: The motion was made by Gordon Miller and seconded by Marcus Hackler.

Vote: The motion was adopted unanimously
 [Written handout: 2020 Annual Report (Final)]

5. Updates and Presentations

Chair McGrath asked if there were any announcements from the AQC members and MCAQ staff.

A. Announcements
Update on Operations

MCAQ staff has started scheduled and announced field inspections for Title V and Synthetic Minor sites in April. Staff are following Covid19 protocols as a precaution. It was stated EPA issued a letter extending flexibility to local and state agencies across the country to meet grant commitments concerning inspections through September 2021. MCAQ staff will work to safely complete as many inspections as possible by September 30th.

Spring Compliance Workshop

The AQC members were informed that staff will be conducting this year's spring compliance workshop virtually via WebEx on May 25th & 26th. The compliance workshop will focus on Keys to Air Compliance Excellence with the focus on air quality permitting. The AQC members will receive an email invitation to attend the event.

Webinar featuring AQC members

Megan thanked Fern Paterson, Gordon Miller, Janet Garner-Mullins, Rosa Mustafa and Peter McGrath for participating in the Q&A panel discussion and Marcus Hackler for his support at the AQC webinar held on March 31st. Ivonne Hernandez was recognized for working with Public Information to facilitate the virtual event.

Breathing Room Transit Strategy Meeting Update

Megan updated the AQC members on the meeting with County Commissioner Leigh Altman who serves on the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) to discuss the Transit Expansion strategy. Terry Lansdell, the AQC's transportation representative, and Sheldon Turner, Air Quality Specialist also participated in the meeting. Terry discussed the AQC supporting staff on the transit expansion. It was stated that when the MTC meeting agenda comes out staff will brief Commissioner Altman on topics related to air quality.

GRADE

The AQC members were informed that the staff held a GRADE selection committee meeting to evaluate project applications received from the call for projects that ran through January 15, 2021. The selection committee approved 41 projects to be awarded \$1.8 million grant funding. If all projects are accepted it would reduce 180 tons of ozone forming NOx over the lifetime of the projects.

Monitoring Question

Rosa Mustafa asked Megan if a monitoring station has been implemented in the Historic West End area. Megan stated there is currently a monitor station at Friendship Park located off of Beatties Ford Road.

B. Colonial Pipeline Leak Update

Megan provided an update on the Colonial Pipeline gasoline spill at the Mecklenburg County Oehler Nature Preserve. Megan read a statement issued by NCDEQ, who is the lead agency, saying that it is unacceptable that Colonial Pipeline has not provided an accurate account of the number of gasoline spilled. In partnership with North Carolina Division of Air Quality (NCDAQ), MCAQ began collecting air sampling data on April 7th but has not received results yet. MCAQ has required a permit application including air dispersion modeling from Colonial to demonstrate compliance with the air toxics regulations by May 14th.

Fern asked a question about the primary emission source from the remediation equipment being used during the clean up. Jason stated there were 2 thermal oxidizers for vapor control, a liquid transfer process being routed to tanks, and portable generators.

C. New Indy Odor Complaints

Megan updated the AQC members on the New Indy odor complaints that MCAQ, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) started receiving. There have been widespread odor complaints citing a “rotten egg/sewer/sulfur” type odor in South Mecklenburg County, Union County and South Carolina since February. A multi-jurisdictional investigation across states has identified the most significant source to be the New Indy paper mill in Catawba, South Carolina. The site began a new process in January. It was stated that to date there has been no confirmed similar odor coming from any Mecklenburg County facility. SCDHEC is the permitting agency for New Indy and has created a website for reporting odors and providing updates. Megan will ask Ieshishua to email the website link to the AQC members.

The AQC members were informed that EPA Region 4 and regulatory staff have inspected the site and area. The EPA is evaluating monitoring data and will communicate the results with SCDHEC. There may be additional monitoring conducted by EPA at the site. MCAQ staff is currently evaluating reports submitted to date, conducting monitoring, and will provide information as needed to SCDHEC. Fern Paterson recused herself from the discussion due to New Indy being a client of her law firm.

D. Response to March 2021 Public Comments to the AQC

Chair McGrath introduced the discussion with the following remarks.

We understand the commenter is asking if and when MCAQ or the AQC requests an applicant for a permit or permit amendment or requests another agency to conduct a study of vehicle traffic changes that may be associated with the changes contemplated by the application. Neither the AQC nor MCAQ has the authority to require such a study, and also do not have the resources to conduct such a study on their own.

We understand the City of Charlotte does conduct studies covering projects in Charlotte under certain circumstances. We understand the Planning Department manages the study process for the City. We suggest that the commenter contact the Planning Department to discuss policies that set forth the events or circumstances that trigger the undertaking of a study by the City. If the commentator believes the policies for triggering events or circumstances are unduly restrictive, and that the City should

conduct studies under a broader range of circumstances, the AQC believes the commentator would have to discuss those policies with the City Council.

Rosa asked how are we doing the assessment of what's going into the air in the community. She has concerns about monitoring what's being released into the air and the air bound contamination. Jason Rayfield of MCAQ responded that a facility is required to estimate emissions for any proposed changes and then the air quality permit requires ongoing reports at least annually for actual emissions.

Leslie Rhodes joins the meeting at 12:28 p.m.

E. Ozone Season Update

Danielle Jones, Monitoring Program Manager, provided the AQC members with an ozone update. So far in 2021, there have not been any exceedance days in Mecklenburg County or in the region. The current ozone compliance value is 64 ppb.

[Written handout: Ozone Season Update (dated April 26, 2021)]

6. Next Meeting

May 24, 2021 (virtual meeting)

7. Adjournment

12:37 p.m.

Mecklenburg County will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities. Mecklenburg County will make reasonable accommodations in all programs to enable participation by an individual with a disability who meets essential eligibility requirements. Mecklenburg County programs will be available in an integrated setting for each individual. If accommodations are necessary for participation in any program or services, participants are encouraged to notify staff.