MECKLENBURG COUNTY
-Air Quality Commission-

Monday, May 23, 2022, 11:30 a.m.
Hal Marshall Conference Room
Fourth Floor, 2145 Suttle Avenue, Charlotte, NC

The monthly meeting of the Mecklenburg County Air Quality Commission was held Monday, May 23, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. in the Hal Marshall Conference Room, at 2145 Suttle Avenue, Charlotte, NC. The meeting was also broadcast virtually on WebEx.

Air Quality Commission Members Present
*In-Person (I)           Virtual (V)
Peter McGrath (I)     Gordon Miller (I)         Rosa Mustafa (I)     Karl Welke(V)       Lisa Hooker (V)
Jamie Watts   (V)      Fern Paterson (I)          Aaron Levy (V)       Brian Magi (I)        Marcus Hackler (I)
Janet Garner-Mullins (I)

Air Quality Commission Members Absent
Billy Powers

Mecklenburg County Air Quality Staff Present
Leslie Rhodes    Ieshishua Pierce     Jason Rayfield      Danielle Jones       Megan Green       Aaron Matijow
Ivonne Hernandez  Chuck Greco  Sheldon Turner

Guest
Nick, General Public        Matt Bartlett, General Public       Marley Peterson, General Public

1. Call to Order
Chair McGrath called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes
Chair McGrath opened the floor for the approval of the February, March and April AQC meeting minutes.

Action Taken:
Motion: A motion was made to approve the February, March and April AQC meeting minutes as written.
Made: The motion was made by Gordon Miller and seconded by Marcus Hackler.
Vote: The motion was adopted unanimously.

3. Public Comments to the Air Quality Commission (AQC)
Action Required: Open Public Comment Period

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):
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Name</th>
<th>Facility Address</th>
<th>Action Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IPEX USA – Pineville Facility</td>
<td>10100 Rodney Street, Pineville, NC 28134</td>
<td>Open Public Comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vulcan Construction Materials, LLC - Clear Creek</td>
<td>11435 Brooks Mill Road, Charlotte, NC, 28227</td>
<td>Alternative Notice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Rock Crushing</td>
<td>9501 Old Statesville Road, Charlotte, NC 28269</td>
<td>Information Only</td>
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Jason Rayfield, Permitting Manager, was available to answer questions. Jason informed the AQC members that the Vulcan Construction Materials, LLC-Clear Creek permit action is an alternate public notice which means the 15-day public comment period started with a legal notice published in the Charlotte Observer.

B. **General Comments to the Commission**

None

4. **Request for AQC Action to Open Public comment Period for the Annual MCAQ Monitoring Network Plan**

Leslie Rhodes, Air Quality Director, introduced Danielle Jones, Monitoring Manager, to give a summary of the 2022-2023 Annual Monitoring Network Plan. Danielle highlighted the following updates from the 2022-2023 Annual Monitoring Network Plan:

- Monitoring station siting modifications to update site map from the addendum to the 2021-2022 annual network plan that include the additional near-road Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) monitoring station at Equipment Drive, the progress of moving forward with this site to get equipment and approval from EPA to establish the site as well as the public comment period.

- Modification- ongoing Photochemical Assessment Monitoring Stations (PAMS) implementation at the Garinger site that reflects MCAQ intends to begin measuring True NO2 and UV radiation this upcoming PAMS season. It was noted that the True NO2 was delayed last season due to vendor delays, supply chain interruptions, and staffing shortages. The carbonyls sampling staff plans to implement once EPA allows for more funding to be available.

- Modification- air monitoring station which started operating in April 2021 in partnership w/ NCDAQ at Colonial spill site called the Oehler Air Monitoring Station has been added to the Network plan. MCAQ is operating the actual instrument, but NCDAQ is handling the lab analyses. It was noted that a site map has been added to the network plan and this site has been designated as a special purpose monitor.

- No other site modifications or shutdowns.
Danielle paused to take questions from the AQC members.

- Rosa Mustafa asked a question about funding for equipment and Danielle explained that there is funding from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) that will be used primarily for PM2.5 and supporting instrumentation. She explained that the funding received from ARP will be used to replace aging equipment and to provide some of the supporting instrumentation.

- Rosa asked a follow-up question asking how many monitoring sites are there within Mecklenburg County? Danielle stated there are currently five compliance monitoring sites, and in addition to those 5 sites, staff is currently working to add the 2nd NO2 monitor over the next year at the Equipment Drive site and there is also the special purpose monitor at the Colonial spill site.

- Marcus Hackler asked a question concerning how staff will use the data received from Colonial spill site. Danielle explained that the data is used for screening purposes. There is not a national ambient air quality standard for any of the air toxics that are monitored there. The state toxicologist has been using the data to compare measured the levels and confirm that those values have not been above the CDC and NIOSH levels for the compounds. Leslie explained this is a joint project with NCDAQ so the phasing in and out of the monitor will be done in coordination with them.

- Fern Paterson asked who is funding the colonial monitoring site. Leslie explained MCAQ covers the personnel to operate it and the State covers in the contract that exist for toxic monitoring already the analyzes for the samples.

- Fern asked a follow-up question concerning if current monitoring sites are secure on leases or if there are any sites where the location is at risk. Leslie explained that are no current leases on any sites. Staff look to establish monitoring sites on Mecklenburg County property such as Park and Recreation sites, which don’t require a lease and are more permanent.

- Fern asked for clarity on the UV radiation monitoring. Danielle explained this is part of the monitoring for ozone precursor and ozone data.

- Chair McGrath asked what is the schedule on the new near-road monitor? Danielle stated the goal implementation is January 1, 2023.

There is a 30-day public comment period so a motion was made for the AQC member to open public comment for the 2022-2023 Annual MCAQ Monitoring Network Plan.

**Action Taken:**

Motion: A motion was made to open public comment for the 2022-2023 Annual MCAQ Monitoring Network Plan.

Made: The motion was made by Gordon Miller and seconded by Dr. Brian Magi.

Vote: The motion was adopted unanimously.
Chair McGrath asked for a motion to add an agenda item to discuss the consideration of the AQC voting rule that would allow members attending virtually or via phone to vote.

Action Taken:
Motion: A motion was made to add an agenda item to discuss the consideration of the AQC voting rule that would allow members attending virtually or via phone to vote.
Made: The motion was made by Fern Paterson and seconded by Rev. Janet Garner-Mullins.
Vote: The motion was adopted unanimously.

5. Consideration of AQC voting rule
Chair McGrath open the floor to discuss the current AQC voting rule that allows AQC members attending virtually or via phone to be counted as present for the meeting, but they cannot vote. There was some discussion on changing the rule to allow members attending remotely to vote. Rosa Mustafa asked if an exception could be made after the emergency order is lifted to make accommodations for members who’s schedule may not allow them to attend in-person. Chair McGrath explained that this may not be an option due to the BOCC attendance policy. Leslie will reach out the County Attorney to make sure the action taken at the meeting today is legal and what will happen when the State of Emergency is lifted. The AQC members will be notified once guidance has been received from the County Attorney.

Action Taken:
Motion: A motion was made to allow members who attend hybrid meeting remotely to vote until the emergency order is lifted.
Made: The motion was made by Gordon Miller and seconded by Rev. Janet Garner-Mullins.
Vote: The motion was adopted unanimously.

6. Updates and Presentations
Chair McGrath opened the floor to receive announcements.

A. Announcements
Presentation of 2021 Annual AQC Report to BOCC
Chair McGrath informed the AQC members that the 2021 Annual AQC Report was presented to the BOCC at the May 18th BOCC meeting. Chair McGrath recognized Dr. Brian Magi, Rev. Janet Garner-Mullins and Rosa Mustafa who attended the meeting. It was stated that the BOCC was very appreciative of the annual report before moving forward to highlight some of the questions received from County Commissioners. Chair McGrath addressed Commissioner Pat Cotham’s request for a list of AQC members that came from environmental advocacy groups to reflect the representation of the environmental slot on the AQC. Leslie informed the AQC members that staff is following up on Commissioner Elaine Powell questions concerning dirty diesel and this will be reported at the June 14th Environmental Stewardship Committee meeting. Chair McGrath informed the AQC members of Commissioner Vilma Leake’s question if there was anything that the AQC is doing or could be doing to clean up or close down the auto
junkyards within her district. Leslie informed the AQC members that this is a responsibility of the City of Charlotte it is not an air quality source within air quality. Leslie stated that MCAQ staff did a follow-up with Commissioner Leake previously on this issue and that staff did complete field inspections to verify that none of the specific places that Commissioner Leake mentioned required an air quality permit. This led into a discussion among the AQC members and staff concerning the parked cars not being a significant source for air pollution and who has authority to address Commissioner Leake’s concerns. Rosa Mustafa highlighted some Environmental Justice (EJ) concerns in the West Charlotte area which led into a discussion concerning EJScreen. Rev. Janet Garner-Mullins recommended extending an invitation to Commissioner Leake to tour the district that she represents to better understand her concerns and to also have someone from the City of Charlotte Code Enforcement to come along too.

Action Taken:
Motion: A motion was made to have staff organize a meeting with Commissioner Leake to tour District 2 along with a representative from the City of Charlotte Code Enforcement and AQC members.
Made: The motion was made by Gordon Miller and seconded by Marcus Hackler.
Vote: The motion was adopted unanimously.

Spring Workshop
Jason informed the AQC members that the Spring Workshop entitled Accidentally Prepared-A Workshop on Managing Risk will be held virtually via WebEx on Tuesday, June 14th. The AQC members will receive an email invitation to attend the event and should RSVP to Ieshishua Pierce.

Upcoming GRADE call for projects
Megan Green, Mobile Sources Manager, informed the AQC that staff is preparing for a GRADE call for project starting in July and running through the end of September. There will be more discussion with AQC members at the June meeting on how to reach more customers and promote this call for project.

AQLS ribbon cutting event
Leslie shared some pictures from the AQLS ribbon cutting event that was held on April 22nd at First Ward Park where four Board of County Commissioners, Chair McGrath, Vice Chair Marcus Hackler, Gordon Miller and Karl Welke attended the event. Leslie informed the AQC members that June Blotnick will be retiring in September and to let herself or Chair McGrath know if the AQC would like to honor her at a future meeting.

EPA draft policy assessment retaining current ozone standard
EPA staff has released a draft policy assessment that supports retaining the current ozone standard. EPA is in the process of evaluating the ozone standard to determine if it needs to be strengthened. The draft policy is currently out for public comment and has been referred to CASAC for reviewing.

B. Ozone Formation
This agenda item was tabled to the June AQC meeting.

C. AQI Fan Distribution
Leslie informed the AQC members that Rosa Mustafa suggested at the April meeting to distribute the AQI hand fans to faith organizations and that staff has investigated the distribution of AQI hand fans to faith organizations. This would provide an opportunity for involvement by AQC members. AQC members were asked to send Ieshishua Pierce an email providing faith organizations that they would like for staff to distribute the AQI fans. Ieshishua will send a reminder email to AQC members per Gordon Miller’s request.

7. Next Meeting
June 27, 2022 (in-person w/ virtual meeting option)

8. Adjournment
12:53 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.