

Vehicle Inspection Advisory Committee (VIAC)

Meeting Notes

December 16, 2019

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Vehicle Inspection Advisory Committee (VIAC) was called to order at 1:31 p.m. on December 16, 2019 at DPS, Building I, 2nd Floor Executive Conference Room.

2. Roll Call

Present

Anthony Moffa	Co-Chairman	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Abel Porras	Co-Chairman	Inspection Station Owner
David Lewis		Emission Testing Equipment Manufacturer
Calvin Lucas		
Dave Campbell		Station Owner
Michelle Campbell		Station Owner
Jason Brown		
Mary Deconbock		Texas State Inspection Association
Edgar Gilmore	Program Coordinator	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Sarah Thomas	Agency Liaison	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Jason Hester	Assistant Chief	Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
JoJo Heselmeyer	Service Director	Texas Department of Public Safety
Pablo Luna	Program Manager	Texas Department of Public Safety
Sarah Gaytan	Program Manager	Texas Department of Public Safety
Leslie Stevens	Executive Assistant	Texas Department of Public Safety

3. Minutes from September 18, 2019

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

4. Remarks from DPS and TCEQ

- *DPS*
 - DPS reviewed a draft letter for all analyzer units that will be phased. The letter depicts exact models affected and the replacement deadline. Program Inspectors were instructed to check the analyzer models, and their inspections should be completed by December 20, 2019. Once we are aware of the analyzer model at each station, the letters will go out to specified stations. DPS in partnership with TCEQ, established April 1, 2020 and July 1,

2020 as transition period dates for the analyzers. The notification letters are planned to be mailed by the first week of January.

- DPS will continue to update their website removing all references of TSI/ASM, which should be completed by end of year.
- DPS is also working on Senate Bill 711 which is the recall bill.
- *TCEQ*
 - In partnership with DPS, TCEQ is updating the VIE-24 Form for the 1996-1998 transitional vehicles that will go out to the stations.
 - As of January 1st, the low volume limit will be obsolete. TCEQ noted that emissions analyzers will not enforce the low volume limit.
 - The next cost study survey will be available mid-March and run for four-six weeks.

5. Old Business

- *Training mode*
 - DPS is currently working on training for new inspectors.
- *Activity reports*
 - DPS had no updates available.
- *Plans for enhancements*
 - Currently there are no plans for enhancements to DPS direct.

6. New Business

- *Texas Department of Transportation- Vision Zero Plan*
 - DPS has no role in the Vision Zero Plan. No one has reached out to DPS in any capacity for feedback or assistance.
- *Gas Cap Tester*
 - The current tester isn't effective and results are longer than normal. The question was posed if there are more efficient testers, other than the current ones approved. DPS states that no one has contacted them in years regarding gas cap testers. Changes can be made if vendors contact DPS and follow protocol to be used as an approved model.

7. Public Comments

- Pine Tree Inspections states that they are still experiencing issues with diesel owners taking off the diesel exhaust fluid systems and EGR valves. DPS reiterated that this is strictly prohibited and municipalities should be enforcing this during a roadside inspections. Feel free to send complaints to DPS online and there will be a follow up with the inspection station.
- Pine Tree Inspections had questions in reference to the 15 day window for follow up inspections. The station owner made note that customers will go to a less reputable

station after the notice drops from the computer system. DPS replied that there would need to be a system enhancement before any modifications would be made to this rule. Currently, there are no plans to change the process.

- Edgar Gilmore (TCEQ) added that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a mechanism for receiving violation reports regarding tampering of vehicles. You can report violations at tampering.epa.gov.
- A station owner asked how you verify a deleted diesel. David Campbell offered the comment of verifying if the check engine light is on. Mr. Campbell explained the complexity of verifying the deleted diesel through visual inspection. He added that the total exhaust system would have to be removed, but warned against disassembly during an inspection.
- A member of TCEQ will disseminate the United States EPA's anti-tampering brochure to the group via email.

8. Future Agenda Items

Please provide any future agenda items to Leslie Stevens.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for March 25, 2020.

10. Adjourn

Anthony Moffa adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m.