

Vehicle Inspection Advisory Committee (VIAC)

Meeting Notes

March 26, 2020

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Vehicle Inspection Advisory Committee (VIAC) was called to order at 1:32 p.m. on March 26, 2020 via WebEx Teleconference.

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
Ken Jones		Station Owner
Robert Purée		Subject Matter Expert for Fuel and Emission Systems
Jason Brown		Northeast Texas Council of Governments
Brandi Byrd		Texas State Inspection Association
Edgar Gilmore	Program Coordinator	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Chad Cryer	Agency Liaison	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Sky Hoffman	Agency Liaison	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
David Serrins	Agency Liaison	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Sarah Thomas	Agency Liaison	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
JoJo Heselmeyer	Service Director	Texas Department of Public Safety
Steve Moniger	Senior Policy Analyst	Texas Department of Public Safety
Pablo Luna	Program Manager	Texas Department of Public Safety
Sarah Gaytan	Program Manager	Texas Department of Public Safety
Ann Yusim	Program Manager	Texas Department of Public Safety
Lawrence Cortez	Senior Investigator	Texas Department of Public Safety
Leslie Stevens	Executive Assistant	Texas Department of Public Safety
Krystal Sanders	Executive Assistant	Texas Department of Public Safety

3. Minutes from December 16, 2019

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

4. Remarks from DPS and TCEQ

- *DPS*
 - DPS informed the committee that they are diligently working on the RFO for Senate Bill 711.

- DPS Policy Analyst highlighted the rule governing conduct for the inspector that is associated with the safety recall. DPS Analyst read the proposed rule number 23.12 under Section Q, as well as addressed comments in reference to the proposed rule. There may be a sentence added to the rule, stating that the station owner that delegates responsibility to another employee within the station, will be responsible for ensuring compliance during an inspection. DPS Analyst solicited thoughts on the addition of the sentence, as well as the type of violation this should be for station owners. There is no specific date for implementation.
- A concern was posed from The Texas State Inspection Association, in reference to the verbiage of station owners advising customers that their vehicle is subject to recall. DPS Analyst clarified that it will not be enforced until the VIRs are updated and it will not be in the rule language.
- DPS does not have a definite time frame on their implementation of SB711. As timelines are defined, they will be shared with the committee.
- *TCEQ*
 - TCEQ informed the committee of their continued work with DPS on SB711. TCEQ's approximate implementation of SB711 should be in the next year and will include software updates and beta testing.
 - TCEQ is in final completion of their cost study survey that is done every two years. The test will come to a close on March 30. Current and prior year surveys from various cities show similar data. Stations that haven't been in use due to COVID-19, will have an extension provided to them to complete the cost study survey.

5. Old Business

- *Gas Cap Testers*
 - DPS hasn't been contacted by any manufacturer in reference to gas cap testers or models. In the event that there are no testers available, it will be addressed at that time. Currently, there hasn't been notice of a shortage per TCEQ.

6. New Business

- *New Member*
 - Introduction of Robert Purée
- *High Emitters Criteria*
 - Goal of new cut points was to widen the net for vehicles flagged for high emissions through a two-step criteria. High emitter vehicles will be identified as well as caution letter sent to customers that have been deemed with higher emissions.

7. Public Comments

- Question posed to DPS in reference to how the pandemic will affect station owners. JoJo Heselmeyer highlighted that DPS sent out a bulletin that DPS doesn't govern a station's business structure. DPS does understand that some station owners don't feel comfortable conducting inspections due COVID-19. JoJo advised caller to listen to county officials for more guidance. In the event that you choose to conduct inspections, a full inspection must ensue.
- All inspector testing has been canceled until further notice due to the pandemic.
- Any members that are expiring and choose to re-apply for VIAC, DPS will provide an official application for re-application.

8. Future Agenda Items

Please provide any future agenda items to Anthony Moffa and Abel Porras.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for June 10, 2020.

10. Adjourn

Anthony Moffa adjourned the meeting at 2:36 p.m.