

Vehicle Inspection Advisory Committee (VIAC)

Meeting Notes

December 9, 2020

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Vehicle Inspection Advisory Committee (VIAC) was called to order at 1:03 p.m. on December 9, 2020 via WebEx Teleconference.

2. Roll Call

Present

Anthony Moffa	Chairman	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Robert Ferre	Co-Chairman	Subject Matter Expert for Fuel & Emission Systems
David Campbell	VIAC Member	Station Owner
Julie Claussen	VIAC Member	Emissions Analyst
David Lewis	VIAC Member	Emission Testing Equipment Manufacturer
Kevin Pishkar	VIAC Member	Automotive Repair Manager
Charles Ray	VIAC Member	Texas State Manager for DEKRA
Jason Hester	RSD Assistant Chief	Texas Department of Public Safety
JoJo Heselmeyer	RSD Service Director	Texas Department of Public Safety
Chris Sims	RSD Service Director	Texas Department of Public Safety
Sherrie Zgabay	RSD Service Director	Texas Department of Public Safety
Steve Moninger	RSD Sr. Policy Analyst	Texas Department of Public Safety
Pablo Luna	RSD Deputy Manager	Texas Department of Public Safety
Anne Yusim	RSD Deputy Manager	Texas Department of Public Safety
Lawrence Cortez	RSD Sr. Investigator	Texas Department of Public Safety
Leslie Stevens	RSD Executive Assistant	Texas Department of Public Safety
Edgar Gilmore	Program Coordinator	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Guy 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

3. Minutes from September 9, 2020

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

4. Remarks from DPS and TCEQ

- *DPS*
 - In reference to Senate Bill 711, JoJo Heselmeyer reported a pending response was received from DPS Procurement. She stated that the DPS

should have word next week in reference to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration grant. JoJo advised that DPS continues to collaborate with TCEQ to ensure a statewide effort.

- Pablo Luna addressed the committee on licensed renewals. November 1, DPS reiterated to their team that they would go back to issuing reviews prior to safety, emissions and commercial testing. The review process has been streamlined to allow for the applicants to have more time during the question and answer session.
- Assistant Chief Hester acknowledged JoJo's retirement and notified all members that he or Pablo Luna could be contacted during JoJo's transition. AC Hester stated the Department of Information Resources (DIR) would like to make changes to Vehicle Inspection program. They propose to rewrite the program where non-emission counties can utilize their own cellphones, iPads, laptops, etc. for that particular program. DIR has been asked to provide further details in order for DPS was to move forward.
- TCEQ
- Sarah Thomas informed the committee that TCEQ continues to monitor the pre-filing of bills. Currently, there have been no bills filed that affect their program.
- Edgar Gilmore provided an update on SB711. Edgar states that TCEQ is working with the vendors of the equipment for stations located in counties where they have reached testing requirements. TCEQ is working to develop new software to be loaded into analyzers, which will facilitate the receipt of the recall information per SB711. TCEQ is currently in the alpha testing phase of that process. Once approved, TCEQ will reach out to DPS to identify beta testing stations. Results will be evaluated thereafter. Per Edgar, rollout for the software should be in January or February.

5. Old Business

- Deleted Diesels
 - David Campbell offered comments on deleted diesels. David states that this is an ongoing issue in his area. He has concerns that other inspection stations are passing these deleted diesels. Pablo informed David that he is aware of the statewide issue and reminded the committee that any removal of emissions equipment, will cause the equipment to fail.

6. New Business

- New Co-Chair & New Members
 - Anthony Moffa welcomed Robert Ferre as Co-Chair of VIAC.

Pablo welcomed our new members: Julie Claussen, David Campbell, Kevin Pishka and Charles Ray.

- COVID- 19: Vehicle Inspection and Registration Trends
 - Anthony expounded on Texas Inspection and Registration Requirements. He noted that Inspection stations are open at the station owner’s discretion and Governor Abbott has not yet rescinded the registration waiver.
 - Anthony informed the committee that in March, Governor Abbot waived certain vehicles registration and titling regulations through the disaster proclamation. From April –October 2019 vs April- October 2020, vehicle registrations have decreased by 772,781 and incurred a potential loss of revenue in the amount of \$39,218,635.

7. Public Comments

- Charles Ray posed the question to the committee in reference to emissions inspections. Since dynos are gone, Charles inquired if full emission inspections are required. AC Hester informed him that the requirement is found in statute. AC Hester advised that Charles needs a sponsor in order to change legislation. Edgar advised that 1996 model vehicles are required to have emissions testing this year. In January, 1997 model vehicles will be the last model year that will have to have emissions testing. Thereafter, 1996 model vehicles will be exempt.

8. Future Agenda Items

Please provide any future agenda items to Anthony Moffa.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for March 10, 2021.

10. Adjourn

Anthony Moffa adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m.