

**Meeting Notes**  
**Small Business Assistance Program**  
**Compliance Advisory Panel Quarterly Meeting**  
**December 12, 2006**

The Small Business Assistance Program Compliance Advisory Panel meeting was held at the DEQ Fredericksburg Satellite Office.

**Attendance**

Members present: John Dwyer, Thomas Digges and Patricia Carroll

Members not present: Howard Rogers, Mrs. Dyane B. Pergerson and Kelly Harris-Braxton

DEQ Staff: Richard Rasmussen, Rodney Sobin and Dana Brancolini.

**Introductions**

Mr. Dwyer opened the meeting. Introductions were made. The agenda was reviewed.

**Discussion**

▪ **Anti-Idling Initiative**

Under the auspices of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Air Management Association, funding is being made available, initially in Pennsylvania and Delaware, to promote auxiliary power units, small diesel-powered generators mounted on trucks to provide heat, air-conditioning, and electrical power to run small appliances, without running the truck engine. The use of auxiliary power results in energy savings and emission reductions (reduction from 3 gal of diesel used by truck engine per hour to 0.3 gal by the auxiliary unit). The cost for such devices ranges from \$6,000 to \$8,500. Funding is available for this initiative.

▪ **SBA National Diesel Emissions Reduction and Fuel Savings Loan Initiative**

Conceived in Richmond by the regional District SBA office and DEQ SBAP, this initiative has become an agreement between the SBA and the EPA SmartWay Program to target emissions reduction/energy efficiency measures through use of auxiliary power units, air dams, enhanced tires, and other measures in the trucking industry. Using several SBA Community Express lenders, the SBA provides loan guarantees to the participating lenders. Information on the loan program is available online (<http://www.epa.gov/smartway/financing.htm>).

Virginia International Terminals has expressed interest in the loan program to provide an incentive for drayage truckers to upgrade their equipment in return for preferential treatment in placement in the drayage pickup line – those trucks retrofitted would be moved to beginning of the line when loading

The SmartWay Transport Partnership is a voluntary collaboration between U.S. EPA and the freight industry designed to increase energy efficiency while significantly reducing greenhouse gases and air pollution. SmartWay Transport Partners lead the way towards a cleaner, more efficient transportation future by adopting fuel-saving strategies that increase profits and reduce emissions.  
[www.epa.gov/smartway/](http://www.epa.gov/smartway/)

and unloading. The SBA/ EPA loan program interest rate is approximately 12.25%. The CAP raised concern that the loan program's interest rate is too high for small businesses.

- **Open Discussion**

CAP discussed challenges faced by small business in the research and development industry, specifically funding challenges.

- **BioDiesel**

Small and large scale production of biodiesel fuel is an emerging issue for DEQ staff. DEQ is still determining regulatory aspects of biodiesel, including permitting and hazardous waste management issues. There is a need to develop and distribute guidance to address multimedia environmental compliance issues. Biodiesel refers to a diesel fuel produced from the processing of plant and animal oils, fats, and grease. Biodiesel offers some emissions benefits, reduced foreign petroleum dependency, and enhanced economic opportunities for farmers and rural communities. Though derived from biological sources, it is a fuel that can be readily used in diesel vehicles with no modification.

- **2007 Dry Cleaning and Vapor Recovery Compliance Calendars.**

The calendars are at the printer – we are printing 1,000 dry cleaner and 1,500 vapor recovery calendars. The calendar formats have been modified from last year to give them a clean fresh look. The Dry Cleaner calendar has been updated to include regulation changes effective July 28, 2006. We plan to continue to improve the appearance and usability of the calendars.

CAP discussed the coresidential dry cleaner situation, which has arisen from the recent regulatory changes. In late March and early April, the SBAP staff plan to conduct outreach to dry cleaners across the state, providing guidance on compliance issues.

- **Auto Body Shop Self-Certification Program**

All of the certificates have been signed. Those for approved shops are ready to be framed and delivered by Jeffery Spears, Director of the Northern Virginia Regional Office, and the SBAP staff. There are 32 approved shops and one that has completed the certification process, but there are citizen complaints against this particular shop regarding odor.

## **Notes**

**Future Meetings** – the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, 2007. At this meeting, the SBAP will provide an update on our ongoing projects, as we did today. We will inform you of any progress on upcoming projects, such as the dry cleaner outreach mentioned above and the proposal to restart joint outreach with local business licensing authorities, which was successful in Henrico.