

Meeting Notes
Small Business Assistance Program
Compliance Advisory Panel Quarterly Meeting
June 13, 2007

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, Kelly Harris-Braxton
Members not present: Howard Rogers, Mrs. Dyane B. Pergerson
DEQ Staff: Richard Rasmussen, Dana Brancolini.

Introductions

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

Discussion

- **Anti-Idling Initiative**

Update on the Mid-Atlantic Regional Air Management Association, Region III Small Business Assistance Program grant initiative which is being executed in Pennsylvania and Delaware. The purpose is 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.

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

Update on the Loan initiative. As a reminder the loan program was 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>).

The SBA/ EPA loan program interest rate is approximately 12.25%. The CAP continued to raise concerns that the loan program's interest rate is high for small businesses. Although the rate is still

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.
<http://www.epa.gov/smartway/>

cheaper than charge cards and cash flow and turn around is tremendously important to independent truckers, especially given the high cost of diesel fuel. The federal SBA and EPA although a nationwide loan initiative is in need of a strong marketing push, only a small number of loans has been done. We have attempted to engage the Virginia Chapter of the American Trucking Association on several occasions to help in this effort, even inviting them to join the CAP on an ad hoc basis.

- **BioDiesel**

The agency is in the process of developing a Bio-Diesel Primer for use on the internet as well as hard copy. Rodney Sobin is coordinating the effort. We hope to have a final draft in the near future for your review

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

Update – We feel the distribution of calendars this year was very successful. We received a lower number of returns in 07 compared to 06. The new format for the 08 calendars will be developed shortly.

Progress of changes to the dry cleaning rule has slowed down at EPA. The SBAPs continue to be involved in conversation with the rule writer on the necessary changes
--

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

Update – there have been a total of 40 shops certified (one is on hold due to ownership change). The certificates and decals (32) were hand delivered by Jeffery Steers, Director of the Northern Virginia Regional Office, and the SBAP staff. The remainder of the shops either still need a visit or correction of outstanding items. We also discussed the redesign of the 2008 Workbook and Certification Checklist. We provide Section 2 of the workbook for review and comment of the Panel.

Upcoming Projects

- **Dry Cleaner Workshops**

We have had good attendance at the first 4 workshops (Roanoke, Danville, Portsmouth, Chester) which have been sponsored by the Mid Atlantic Cleaners Association. We are expecting an excellent turnout at final session on June 24th which is a joint effort with us by the Maryland and District of Columbia Small Business Assistance Programs. The event will be sponsored by Mid Atlantic Cleaners Association and the Korean Dry Cleaners Association of Greater Washington. A review of the PowerPoint Presentations of the “Regulatory Update” and “Perc Alternatives” was provided and discussion about Perc alternatives followed. PowerPoint presentations. The presentations are available on the web at: <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/osba/indsect.html#dry>

- **Dry Clean Expo 2007**

This event has been cancelled

- **Community Outreach EPA Region III – DC, Maryland, Virginia Auto Body Shops**

We will try to put something together that will mimic what is being done in West Virginia.

- **Community Outreach**

We discussed a potential project which would involve contact with local governments to pursue avenues for reaching small businesses: city manager, county manager, business license desk, county supervisors, office of business license tax, office of building permits, Treasurers' Association and economic development staff.

UP Coming Meetings

We discussed the upcoming National Program meeting in St. Paul MN and the upcoming meeting of VA Can at which Kelly Harris Braxton will be presenting on her organization Virginia First Citie.

I invited the Panel to attend the meeting of the Insurance companies and paint suppliers to be held on July 17th at the Woodbridge Office. We hope to generate additional support for the Auto Body Self Certification Program

Notes

Future Meetings – the next meeting is Tentatively Scheduled for Tuesday, September 25th, 2007. Please mark your calendars. If you would like to host the meeting please let me know.