



**Meeting Notes**

Attendees: Terry Gray, RIDEM  
Ron Gagnon, RIDEM  
Steve Majkut, RIDEM  
Barbara Morin, RIDEM  
Mike Kenney, KB Environmental  
Carol Lurie, VHB  
Susan Nichols, VHB

Date/Time: August 12, 2005

Project No.: 09228

Purpose: Discuss T.F. Green EIS Air Quality Study Protocol

Location: RIDEM Air Quality Office  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908-5767

Notes Taken by: Carol Lurie, Mike Kenney, and Susan Nichols

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**Introductions**

The meeting attendees introduced themselves and noted their roles in preparing/reviewing the T.F. Green Airport Improvement Program EIS. Mike Kenney provided RIDEM with a copy of the book, *Airport Air Quality, Approaches, Basics and Challenges*, of which he is the co-editor and a primary author.

**Review of RIDEM Scoping Comments**

Carol Lurie and Mike Kenney presented the consolidated RIDEM comments on the T.F. Green EIS Scope of Work for air quality. RIDEM noted that it submitted three comment letters on the Scope of Work dated February 22, 2005, April 26, 2005, and May 5, 2005. VHB will confirm that all three letters have been included in the consolidated comments. The group reviewed the comments and discussed how each comment was addresses in the Final Scope of Work and the draft Air Quality Assessment Protocol for the Draft EIS. Of the seventeen RIDEM comments/requests discussed, only one pertaining to the assessment of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs) remains unresolved.

RIDEM's February 22, 2005 letter stated that the "Air Toxics Analysis should include a prediction of the maximum offsite impacts of air toxics emitted by sources and activities at the airport. The analysis should also predict air toxics concentrations in all on-site outdoor areas to which the public has access, such as parking lots."

Mike Kenney explained that according to FAA guidelines, the assessment of airport-related HAPs for NEPA documents consists of a HAPs emission inventory. He then went on to explain that prediction (or modeling) of ambient HAPs levels associated with airport operations is not recommended by the FAA Offices of Airports and Environment and Energy as the current methodologies are not well tested and the results are too uncertain. Therefore, the air quality assessment as described in the Scope of Work and Air Quality Assessment Protocol will include an emissions inventory of HAPs for existing and future year conditions, both with and without the proposed projects at PVD. The analysis will also address all the HAPs listed in the comment.

RIDEM Air Quality staff stated their disagreement with this approach and recommends that a dispersion analysis be included and the results be compared to Acceptable Ambient Levels (AALs) established by their agency. Given that the FAA would not likely include the analysis in the EIS nor fund the work, Mike Kenny suggested there are potentially three ways to develop a proxy in place of dispersion modeling of airport-related HAPs levels in the EIS: (1) RIDEM/EPA's own HAPs



monitoring results around the airport; (2) the emission inventory results for VOCs/PM; and (3) the dispersion modeling results for VOCs and PM. On the latter two points, most HAPs are a subset of VOCs/PM. Thus trends shown in the VOC/PM emissions inventory and dispersion modeling would be generally indicative of HAPs in the airport vicinity. VHB will discuss these options with the FAA.

#### **Air Quality Assessment Protocol**

Mr. Kenney distributed a Draft Air Quality Assessment Protocol to the meeting attendees and briefly discussed the objectives, approach, and methodology. Mike Kenny also prepared a set of questions to be clarified in the review of the protocol. RIDEM will review the protocol and provide comments to VHB within 20 working days.

#### **Action Items:**

VHB will arrange for RIDEM to tour the airport.

VHB will confirm that all three RIDEM letters have been included in the consolidated comments.

If available, VHB will provide one week's taxi and operations data (from Noise Study) to RIDEM.

KB Environmental will provide copies of the FAA Air Quality Procedures for Airports and its Addendum, the FAA HAPs Resource Document, the General Conformity Guidelines and information on an upcoming EDMS class to RIDEM.

RIDEM will review the Draft Air Quality Assessment Protocol and provide comments to VHB.

RIDEM will assist Mike Kenney with the selection and/or development of background NO<sub>2</sub>, PM, and SO<sub>2</sub> data and will confirm meteorological data recommendations for the dispersion modeling.