

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH PROGRAM  
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Community College of Allegheny County - Allegheny Campus  
K. Leroy Irvis Science Center, Room 302  
808 Ridge Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
Meeting No. 03-25**

**June 9, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.**

**Committee Members Present**

Dan Bricmont (Chair), Bricmont Law\*  
Sara Marie Baldi, Salvation Army  
Anna Batista, High Street Consulting  
Steven Hvozdoch, Clean Water Action\*  
Mark Jeffrey (Vice Chair), U. S. Steel\*  
Robert Orchowski, Hillcrest Group

**Committee Members Not Present**

Chip Babst, Babst Calland  
Mary Ann Bucci, Port of Pittsburgh  
Jeanne Clark, ALCOSAN  
Courtney Mahronich Vita, Friends of the Riverfront  
John Palmiere, Vice President, Allegheny County Council  
Anna Siefken, U.S. DOE

**ACHD Staff Present**

Geoff Rabinowitz, DPA, Deputy Director, EH Bureau  
Jason Willis, Senior Solicitor ACHD  
David Good, AQ Program Manager\*  
Jason Maranche, AQ Program Manager  
Ian Anderson, EH Administrator\*  
Brendan Turley, Assistant Solicitor ACHD  
Tom Lattner, AQ Engineer\*  
Karen M Sagel, AQ Senior Secretary\*

\*Denoted participated via remotely; all others in person attendance

**Participants Present**

Coleen M Davis, Citizen\*  
Amanda Gillooly, G.A.S.P.\*  
David Hacker, US Steel\*  
Jeremy Hancher, SBAC/EMAP\*  
Steve Hepler, DEP\*  
Mark Huncik, Citizen\*  
Matthew Mehalik, Breathe Project\*  
Tim Schwendeman, PPG Industries\*  
Brett Tunno, U. S. Steel\*  
Tishie Woodwell, U. S. Steel\*  
Ken Zapinski, PGH WORKS\*

**1. Welcome and Call to Order**

**Action:** Chair Dan Bricmont called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. A quorum was not present. All in attendance in person and via Microsoft Teams made their introductions.

**2. Chair's Remarks**

Mr. Bricmont had no remarks.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**a. Approval of Minutes – April 14, 2025**

**Action:** A quorum was not present, and a vote was not taken, the minutes will be readdressed at the next meeting

**4. Air Quality Program Financial Update – Geoff Rabinowitz**

Dr. Geoff Rabinowitz reviewed the current finances for the Department's Air Quality Program. He again reviewed the deficit, the funding from the EPA the Department is awaiting, and proactive measures the Department is taking to prevent a deficit in departmental spending.

**5. Regulations in Progress Status – Tom Lattner**

Tom Lattner provided an update to the Regulations in Progress table.

**6. PM<sub>2.5</sub> Planning Updates – Jason Maranche**

Jason Maranche provided an update on the current status of PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitored data and designations. Official data through 2024 shows continued attainment of all NAAQS, except for the 2024 PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS, and values are continuing to show a downward trend through 2025. Three proposals have been received for the Request for Proposals (RFP) for modeling for the PM<sub>2.5</sub> 2024 NAAQS. Dr. Rabinowitz added that a redesignation request will be resubmitted for the 2012 Pm<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS. clarified what changes were made to the values submitted to the EPA for reconsideration.

**7. Possible Locations for Lawrenceville Site – David Good**

David Good discussed various locations that have been evaluated for siting the Air Program's monitoring equipment. Carnegie Mellon University has a building that fits nearly all requirements needed to house the monitoring equipment. The Department is in talks now with CMU regarding the use of the building. The next step would be to introduce this as a potential INCORE SITE in the upcoming Network Plan, a move that would be open for public comment. Mr. Maranche concurred that this would be a good placement for the equipment.

**8. Other Business/Citizen Comments**

Mr. Bricmont inquired as to whether there was any further information regarding the incident with the B Battery at the U.S. Steel Clairton facility in February and was a second event that occurred there more recently. Dr. Rabinowitz said both are still under active investigation. Mr. Bricmont also questioned whether the Clean Air Fund requests table has been added to the website yet. Dr. Rabinowitz replied that general information has been developed, and it is the intention of the ACHD to update it on a quarterly basis.

Brett Tunno acknowledged the hard work by Allegheny County, U. S. Steel, and others on the SO<sub>2</sub> SIP which ultimately led to redesignation of attainment for the Allegheny County, PA SO<sub>2</sub> area.

Bob Orchowski, with regard to the American Lung Association's (ALA) State of the Air Report, expressed his contention that this report paints the area with a very broad brush when it characterizes all of Allegheny County's air quality as poor. He does not believe that it is a fair representation of the County's air quality and would like to see the Health Department challenge the Lung Association and publicly dispute the fairness of their report.

Ken Zapinski expressed his feelings on the validity of the American Lung Association's assessment of air pollution in Allegheny County.

Matthew Mehalik expressed support for the ALA's Report and stated that it is important that the Report must be taken more seriously by all concerned with air quality in Allegheny County because in fact the County does indeed not meet all of the NAAQS standards, in particular it does not meet the 2024 PM2.5 NAAQS. He stated that it is important not to judge today's air quality from the standpoint that past standards have been met, because there is evolution in Public Health evidence that suggests that there is no safe level of exposure to air pollution. We all need to evolve our thinking and instead of pushing back on reports that say there is an air quality problem in our area because we are beholden to an outdated standard.

## **9. Adjournment**

**Action:** Mr. Bricmont adjourned the meeting as a quorum was not present to vote, the meeting ended at 6:32 p.m. Next meeting date is August 11, 2025.