

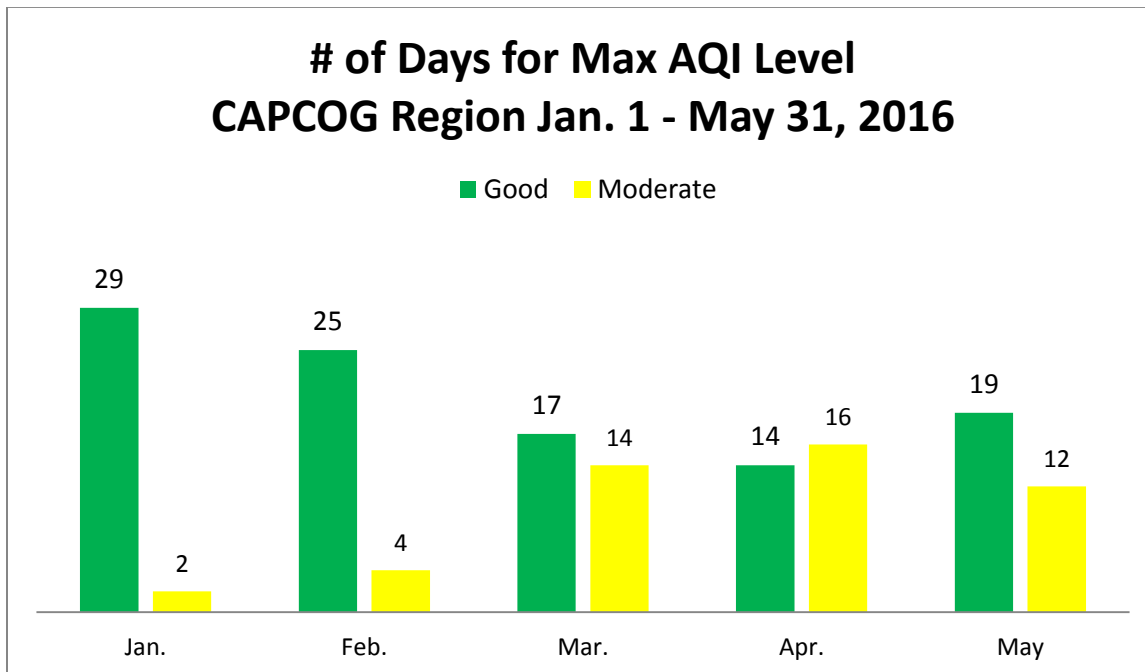
Monthly CAPCOG Air Quality Newsletter: June 2016

Prepared by the Capital Area Council of Governments

June 1, 2016

Air Monitoring

Figure 1. Air Quality Index (AQI) Summary for 2016 Year to Date



- “Moderate” Days in May:
 - Ozone: 5 (5/4, 5/5, 5/6, 5/7, and 5/13)
 - PM_{2.5}: 7 (5/10, 5/11, 5/21, 5/24, 5/25, 5/26, and 5/28)
- May Max 8-hour ozone (O₃) concentration: 65 ppb (93% of NAAQS)
- May Max 24-hour fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) concentration: 24.7 µg/m³ (71% of NAAQS)
- May Max 1-hour nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) concentration: 46.9 ppb (47% of 1-hr NAAQS)
- May Max 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO₂) concentration: 1.2 ppb (1.6% of NAAQS)

State & Federal Updates

- **PM National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Periodic Review:**
 - On April 19, 2016, EPA released the Draft Integrated Review Plan (IRP) for the periodic review of the PM
NAAQS:<https://www3.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/standards/pm/data/201604-draft-integrated-review-plan-casac-review.pdf>;
 - Plan calls for new standard to be finalized in 2021;
 - May 23, 2016: EPA Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee meeting on Draft Integrated Review Plan (IRP) for the next review of the PM NAAQS;
 - TCEQ, Gradient, and American Lung Association submitted public comments for the meeting;
 - Meeting information can be found at:
<https://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabpeople.nsf/WebCommittees/CASAC>
 - Comment period on the IRP ends on June 23, 2016;
- **Ozone NAAQS – Houston & Dallas Updates**
 - May 25, 2016: EPA published a proposed rule to approve Houston area redesignation substitute for 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS. Comment period closes June 24, 2016;
 - 2013-2015 data shows that Houston will not attain 2008 Ozone NAAQS by July 20, 2016, and will therefore not qualify for another 1-year deadline extension. EPA expects to reclassify to Moderate with a July 20, 2018, deadline, and require a new attainment demonstration;
 - May 25, 2016: EPA published a proposed rule to approve Dallas-Fort Worth area redesignation substitute for 1979 1-hour Ozone NAAQS.
- **Oil and Gas Rules**
 - In May, EPA finalized new rules for oil and gas sector, including new source performance standards to control methane and VOC and clarifications/updates to oil and gas permitting requirements;
- **TCEQ Tax Relief for Pollution Control Property Advisory Committee**
 - Meeting scheduled for June 13, 2016, from 10 am – 12 pm at TCEQ headquarters, Building E, Room 201-S; Conference call: (877) 820-7831, pw: 924706#
- **TCEQ Stakeholder Meeting on Rulemaking for Outdoor Burning Rules**
 - Meeting scheduled for June 16, 2016, from 10 am – 12 pm at TCEQ headquarters, Building E, Room 201-S;
 - Comments open until June 27, 2016
 - <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/licensing/irrigation/outdoor-burning-rules>
- **TERP updates**
 - Emission Reduction Incentive Grant (ERIG) awards were announced in May;
 - \$51.9 million awarded for 559 projects;
 - 76 projects primarily in the Austin area were awarded a total of \$7.8 million (16% of total), and are projected to reduce 845 tons of NO_x over the next 7 years;

- Included two awards to CapMetro for a total of \$1.6 million to replace 52 buses;
- Average cost/ton of 2016 projects: \$9,923
- Range: \$2,746/ton NO_x reduced - \$15,000/ton NO_x reduced
- New Technology Implementation Grants (NTIG) program (\$3.5 million) application selections will be finalized soon);
- Natural Gas Vehicle Grant Program (\$37.8 million) applications are being accepted on first-come, first-serve basis;
- More info: <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/airquality/terp>.

Upcoming Air Quality Outreach and Education Opportunities

- June 1: Dell World Environment Day in Round Rock
- June 9 – 12: Chisolm Trail Roundup in Lockhart
- June 23 – 26: Luling Watermelon Thump

Other Updates

- Next Clean Air Coalition (CAC) meeting: June 8, 2016, 11:15 am, or upon adjournment of CAPCOG Executive Committee meeting;