

POLICY STATEMENT

FAQS COORDINATING COUNCIL

The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) will contract with the Georgia Tech Research Corporation (GTRC) to do the work of the Fall Line Air Quality Study. Although GTRC, in matters of this study, will be under the direction of EPD, the contract will describe the guidelines and schedules under which the study will be conducted. In most cases, these guidelines will be in the form of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency guidance documents. A Fall Air Quality Study Coordinating Council, consisting of study stakeholders, will be created to advise EPD, which will in turn direct GTRC, in the event that a situation arises where the guidance is either not explicit or is ambiguous. This situation is expected to be a rare event. The Council will also serve as a forum and a medium for information dissemination for FAQs-related concerns such as non-attainment designations, implications of non-attainment status, the State Implementation Plan (SIP) and attainment demonstration timelines and process.

The Coordinating Council shall consist of one representative each from the Environmental Protection Division (who will also serve as Chair), the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, the Georgia Department of Transportation and the Department of Defense; and two representatives each from the cities of Augusta, Columbus, and Macon. Representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the States of Alabama and South Carolina will serve as ex-officio [non-voting] members. The Council will meet on an as-needed basis as the Council determines. Meeting times and places will be determined by Council consensus.

The Council shall strive for and make a reasonable and determined effort to reach all decisions by consensus. Should this reasonable and determined effort fail to provide consensus, the majority of voting members shall prevail.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL

The Scientific Advisory Panel will serve two purposes: 1) Provide peer review of the study process; and 2) Upon the request of the FAQs Coordinating Council, provide technical advice on monitoring, inventory, modeling and control strategy issues. The Scientific Advisory Panel shall consist of appointees made by GTRC and members of the Coordinating Council and shall be experts in the areas of ambient monitoring, emissions inventories, air quality modeling and air pollution control equipment, strategies and/or cost effectiveness.

The Panel will meet initially upon the request of the Coordinating Council and thereafter on an as-needed basis as the Panel determines. GTRC shall appoint the Panel Chair. The Panel shall determine its meeting times and places.

The Panel shall strive for and make a reasonable and determined effort to reach all decisions by consensus. Should this reasonable and determined effort fail to provide consensus, the majority of voting members shall prevail. A report of the decision shall be provided in writing to the Coordinating Council within 3 days of the decision. In cases where the decision was reached by majority vote, a dissenting minority opinion may be provided.