



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LEAD STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING TO BE HELD IN FRISCO

Jan. 19, 6:30 p.m., at Frisco Council Chamber

A Lead Stakeholder Group meeting will be held in Frisco on January 19 to discuss issues related to the lead state implementation plan revision for Collin County. It will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Frisco Council Chamber, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd, Frisco. The public is invited to attend the meeting. Informational presentations will be made, and the public can make informal comments on the plan.

“The TCEQ is pleased that Exide offered blood testing for residents, and we will continue to work with the company, the City of Frisco, and the EPA to make sure residents are not exposed to harmful levels of lead,” said TCEQ Executive Director Mark Vickery.

“We are thankful to TCEQ for hosting this meeting,” said Mayor Maher Maso. “We have committed to our citizens to have their concerns heard and questions answered. I hope our citizens will take advantage of this great opportunity to have the ‘ear’ of TCEQ. This public forum definitely makes the process easier and more transparent for our citizens.”

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the City of Frisco have been working together to ensure Exide’s battery recycling facility in Frisco is taking measures to protect public health and the environment. The City of Frisco has worked with the TCEQ to assure the integrity of the air quality monitoring system surrounding the Exide facility. The EPA requested assistance from the City of Frisco in accessing public land for testing purposes which it provided several months ago. The City of Frisco, along with the TCEQ, is awaiting the final results of that EPA investigation of the Exide facility.

The TCEQ continues to review Exide's air, solid waste and wastewater permits for regulatory compliance, and is working with Frisco to determine if additional soil sampling or other investigative activities are required to fully assess if Exide is impacting Frisco citizens. The TCEQ recently added a fourth lead monitor to the south of Exide that will provide additional monitoring around the facility. The TCEQ is in the process of revising a state implementation plan to ensure that the area demonstrates attainment of the lead National Ambient Air Quality Standard by the required deadline.

The City of Frisco requested assistance from the TCEQ and the Texas Department of Health Services in expanding the health risk study initiated in 1995. Those discussions prompted Exide to begin a public blood lead level testing program. The City of Frisco is aggressively encouraging Exide corporate officials to commit to installing state of the art pollution control devices at the Frisco facility as soon as possible. Exide can make its Frisco facility an industry leader for environmental responsibility and the City of Frisco believes it should begin doing so immediately.

For more information on the meeting, and to find out how to submit comments electronically and by regular mail, go to http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/sip/texas-sip/stakeholders/pb_stakeholder.

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