



NEWS

For Immediate Release

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Strategic Toxic Air Pollution Reduction Plan Released

Louisville, KY (June 1, 2005) – At a special meeting today of the Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control District Board, District staff presented additional recommended revisions to its toxic air pollution plan – the Strategic Toxic Air Reduction (STAR) Program. Originally introduced by Mayor Abramson in early September 2004, the recommended revisions to the regulation remain focused on protecting public health by reducing citizens’ exposure to dangerous levels of toxic air pollution.

Revisions to the program are based in part on staff review and public comments received during a Formal Public Comment Period earlier this year. The District also presented the Board with the Draft Final Regulatory Impact Assessment and the Formal Public Comment Response documents. The response document provides a side-by-side response to stakeholders’ comments with District staff’s answers to the hundreds of comments submitted by citizens, industry groups, and public health and environmental advocacy organizations. A diverse range of local and national interest groups, including the Environmental Protection Agency Region IV office, contributed to the nearly 600 specific and highly technical written questions, comments and recommendations.

District Director Art Williams, stated, “The STAR Program has literally been in the making for years and Louisville is now positioned to address a long-standing public health concern. I am especially appreciative of the wide community support for the new plan. I am confident that the recommended revisions presented to the Board today provides enhanced flexibility, clarity and certainty for companies and their employees doing business in Louisville. Overall, STAR’s goal is to enhance our community’s public health and quality of life.”

The next public meeting of the Air Pollution Control District Board on the STAR program is scheduled at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 14, 2005. The special Board meeting will be held at Memorial Auditorium (970 South 4th Street) in the 2nd Floor Ball Room.

The District’s Response to Public Comments document, Draft Final Regulatory Impact Assessment and Recommended revisions to the STAR Program are available on-line at the District’s website:

<http://www.apcd.org/star>

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