

A RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE CLEAN AIR UPSTATE PROGRAM PLAN AND TO REQUEST THAT UPSTATE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTIES, BUSINESSES, AND INDUSTRIES CONTINUE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE NEED TO JOIN REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY AND KEEP ATTAINMENT STATUS WITH THE NATIONAL AMBIENTE AIR QUALITY STANDARDS IN THE UPSTATE SC AND BE PREPARED TO OFFER FUNDING AND STAFF ASSISTANCE TO THE CLEAN AIR UPSTATE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, Greenville County has led efforts in the Upstate SC to improve air quality since 2002; and

WHEREAS, in October 2009, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated the entire State of South Carolina as “unclassifiable/attainment” with respect to 2006 particle pollution 2.5 (PM_{2.5}) air quality standard; and

WHEREAS in 2012, EPA designated the Upstate South Carolina as an “unclassifiable/ attainment” with respect to the 2008 ground level ozone standard; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that EPA would propose an action in 2013 for the ground level ozone standard, which likely will make the ozone NAAQS more stringent; and

WHEREAS, regional collaborative efforts began in early 2012 bringing Upstate South Carolina industries, nonprofits, businesses, and governments to the table; and

WHEREAS, collaborative efforts are the key to continue increasing awareness on this matter in the Upstate South Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Greenville County Council declares its support to the Clean Air Upstate Program Plan. The Greenville County Council also requests that the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, Bureau of Air Quality, continues offering assistance with funding and staff to improve current conditions and mitigate future negative effects.

DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2012.

Herman G. Kirven, Jr. Chairman
Greenville County Council

Joseph Kernell
County Administrator

ATTEST:

Theresa B. Kizer
Clerk to Council



Upstate Air Quality Pledge/Resolution of Support

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as required by the Clean Air Act, will soon “review and, if necessary, revise air quality standards every five years to ensure that they protect public health with an adequate margin of safety.”¹ Accordingly, it is expected that EPA would propose actions and finalize any National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) revisions within the next few years.

Here in Upstate South Carolina, we recognize that improving air quality and maintaining clean air that is in attainment of the NAAQS established by EPA is critical to both the physical health of Upstate residents and the economic vitality of the region. Therefore, we join other city and county governments, businesses, institutions, and organizations from across the Upstate region to support the development, implementation, and maintenance of the Upstate Air Quality Action Plan and Clean Air Upstate initiative.

We are committed to supporting outreach and education efforts as well as identifying the specific actions that our organization can implement as part of collaborative efforts to ensure that the Upstate maintains a level of air quality that allows our region to reach its full potential as a great place to live, learn, do business, and raise a family.

Local Government/Business/Institution: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Primary Contact Person: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

(As part of the pledge/resolution, we will identify from the Upstate strategies/actions list those actions that our local government/business/organization can work on moving forward. We commit to having a member of our staff work with the Upstate Air Quality Advisory Committee and DHEC to ensure that our efforts are captured as part of the Clean Air Upstate report to EPA’s Ozone Advance Program)

¹ Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency May 5, 2012, News Release. Retrieved from http://www.greenvillecounty.org/air_quality/pdf/press_releasemay2012.pdf

Upstate Air Quality Strategies and Actions – City/County Governments

As part of the Upstate Air Quality Pledge/Resolution, we commit to identifying which of the strategies listed below our local government will work to accomplish to help reduce air emissions and promote clean air in the Upstate. We will have one contact person from our organization work directly with the Upstate Air Quality Advisory Committee and SCDHEC to ensure that our actions are included in the Clean Air Upstate report as part of EPA’s Ozone Advance Program.

We Commit! (Check all strategies that apply)	Strategy	Potential City/County Government Actions
Options: - County contracts with service provider - Employee enroll & pay directly	Utilize Tire Pressure Checks to increase fuel efficiency and reduce emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule monthly tire pressure checks for all city/county vehicles • Enroll in a program that performs monthly checks for both personal and company cars in the parking lot • Educate employees on the importance of regularly checking vehicle tire pressure
- County may offer this as a pretax benefit should employees would like to enroll in a ride-sharing or van pool program	Use ride-sharing or park and ride programs to reduce number of vehicle on the road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with multidisciplinary team of Upstate public (e.g. SCDOT, cities, counties, public transit authorities) and private organizations with transportation planning expertise to identify best opportunities for park and ride facilities within local area • Promote the benefits of ride-sharing or park & ride programs with employees (company announcements, lunch & learn) • Sponsor (subsidize) ride-sharing or park & ride programs for city/county employees • Provide a guaranteed ride back to home in case of emergencies for employees using ride-sharing
- Ongoing annual event	Develop Lawn Mower Exchange Programs to reduce emissions from gas lawn mowers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with DHEC and local businesses to sponsor or host a lawn mower exchange event
- Adopt an administrative policy - Put sticker inside county vehicles (like the Non-smoking stickers) - Erect Breathe Better and no-idling signs in public buildings parking lots - Raise color flags for air quality forecast	Promote No-Idling Programs to reduce emissions from vehicles when parked, standing, or waiting for services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a no-idling policy for all city/county vehicles. • Post signs in city/county parking lots promoting a no-idling policy • Educate employees on the importance of turning off vehicles when sitting in parking lots • Promote the Breathe Better Program in all schools
- Some divisions already doing this	Encourage Alternative Work Schedules as way to reduce vehicles on the road at peak times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow employees to utilize either flex-scheduling or a compressed work week to reduce travel during peak travel hours
- Planning	Promote Multi-Modal Transportation as an alternative to driving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and support programs that increase the ability of city/county residents and employees to utilize alternative travel methods (transit, walking, biking) • Pass a Complete Street Resolution • Become a Bicycle Friendly Community • Institute a bike/ped overlay district • Consider planning that encourages strong work/home connections that make transit routes work • Investigate potential of a bike share program • Reach across jurisdictional boundaries to coordinate transportation projects • Discuss with the local Council of Governments the potential for initiating

		a ride-match program
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed with EECBG grant - Install programmable timers for lamps to automatically turn off for the evening and on weekends. 	Assess Energy and Emission levels of facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the current level of energy usage and ozone emissions from city/county buildings and identify opportunities for reduction • Install automatic light switches for conference rooms, offices and other public areas • Install programmable or remote-controlled thermostats • Ask employees to shut down computers when leaving at night and on weekends • Delamp: replace older light bulbs with brighter, more energy efficient bulbs, and reduce the number of bulbs per light fixture • Discourage or prohibit usage of personal heaters, refrigerators, personal fans and hot pads • When roofing buildings, choose lighter colored materials to reflect light • Install electricity metering and monitoring to see where electricity waste is occurring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Converting GCSO patrol vehicles to hybrid (gas/propane) 	Explore potential for utilizing vehicles that use alternative fuels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research the feasibility of purchasing alternative fuel vehicles (AFV) for company fleet • Install public AFV infrastructure for city/county residents (e.g., charging stations – use solar energy with charging stations; compressed natural gas, propane, hydrogen) • Advocate state and federal governments for tax incentives for AFV infrastructure • Hold lunch and learn sessions to make city/county employees and local residents aware of costs and benefits of AFVs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Installed telematics on county vehicles to monitor and record driving behaviors and encourage changes. (this strategy is not on list) 	Optimizing logistics and vehicle trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the use of Smart Infrastructure and Sensors to enhance the Traffic management Systems and develop and apply more efficient control strategies aiming at optimizing mobility and satisfying individual passengers • Recognize the interdependence of freight and passenger systems and their impacts on overall transportation system performance • Develop regional congestion and intermodal management programs to optimize use of existing resources and identify strategic improvements that will improve freight mobility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete and looking for additional funding 	Promote Diesel Engine Upgrade or Replacement to Achieve NOx Reductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with EPA and DHEC to actively promote existing diesel replacement grant programs (DERA) • Seek additional funding opportunities at the regional level, such as funding available to regional transportation planning organizations for emission reduction projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing 	Promote the local and regional importance of reducing emissions and maintaining clean air for our public health and economic vitality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the Clean Air Upstate education/outreach program to residents and city/county employees • Provide a link to the Clean Air Upstate web site • Encourage schools to participate in the Breathe Better and Clean Air Patrol Programs • Promote the Clean Air Upstate Public Service Announcements • Schedule Clean Air Upstate presentations for local residents and city/county staff

Upstate Air Quality Strategies and Actions – Business and Institution Actions

As part of the Upstate Air Quality Pledge/Resolution, we commit to identifying which of the strategies listed below our business or institution will work to accomplish to help reduce air emissions and promote clean air in the Upstate. We will have one contact person from our organization work directly with the Upstate Air Quality Advisory Committee and SCDHEC to ensure that our actions are included in the Clean Air Upstate report as part of EPA's Ozone Advance Program.

We Commit! (Check all strategies that apply)	Strategy	Potential Business/Institution Actions
	Utilize Tire Pressure Checks to increase fuel efficiency and reduce emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule monthly tire pressure checks for all company vehicles • Enroll company in a program that performs monthly checks for both personal and company cars in the parking lot • Educate employees on the importance of regularly checking vehicle tire pressure
	Use ride-sharing or park and ride programs to reduce number of vehicle on the road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the benefits of ride-sharing or park & ride programs with employees (company announcements, lunch & learn) • Work with neighbor businesses to implement ride-sharing or park & ride programs • Sponsor (subsidize) ride-sharing or park & ride programs for company employees • Provide a guaranteed ride back to home in case of emergencies for employees using ride-sharing
	Develop Lawn Mower Exchange Programs to reduce emissions from gas lawn mowers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with DHEC or local municipality to sponsor or host a lawn mower exchange event • Private sector landscapers and others whose organization includes lawn service may consider using electric or propane equipment. (Businesses may qualify for diesel retrofit funding (DERA) to assist with funding the upgrading of equipment • Contact Home Builders Associations in regards to “Green Home” programs for interest in offering electric powered lawn equipment as a component of the program
	Promote No-Idling Programs to reduce emissions from vehicles not on roadways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a no-idling policy for all company vehicles. • Post signs in company parking lots promoting a no-idling policy • Educate employees on the importance of turning off vehicles when sitting in parking lots • Create company policy that employees driving company vehicles will not use drive-thru windows
	Encourage Alternative Work Schedules as way to reduce vehicles on the road at peak times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow employees to utilize either flex-scheduling or a compressed work week to reduce travel during peak travel hours • Provide financial incentives for employees to set-up home offices • Provide capability for employees to access employer network from remote locations while telecommuting • Provide training for managers and employees to assist with managing productivity and maintaining communications with management, co-workers and customers for employees who are telecommuting and/or utilizing an alternative work schedule
	Promote Multi-Modal Transportation as an alternative to driving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and support programs that increase the ability of employees and customers to utilize alternative travel methods (transit, walking, biking) • Distribute/post bus routes and times • Consider a guaranteed ride home program (late hours, bad weather, sick child) • Install bike racks/bike lockers/showers and allow flexible dress code • Enroll in DHEC's Take a Break from the Exhaust program
	Assess Energy and Emission levels of facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the current level of energy usage and ozone emissions from factories or offices and identify opportunities for reduction

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install automatic light switches for conference rooms, offices and other public areas • Install programmable or remote-controlled thermostats • Ask employees to shut down computers when leaving at night and on weekends • Delamp: replace older light bulbs with brighter, more energy efficient bulbs, and reduce the number of bulbs per light fixture • Discourage or prohibit usage of personal heaters, refrigerators, personal fans and hot pads • When roofing business, choose lighter colored materials to reflect light • Put all HVAC systems on remote control • Install Air Curtains at roll-up doors. Ensure roll-up doors are closed when not in use • Implement a shut-down plan for machinery, fans and other equipment when employees finish a job or leave an area • Replace incandescent bulbs with more efficient light bulbs • Install electricity metering and monitoring to see where electricity waste is occurring
	Explore potential for utilizing vehicles that use alternative fuels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research the feasibility of purchasing alternative fuel vehicles (AFV) for company fleet • Install public AFV infrastructure for employees (e.g., charging stations – use solar energy with charging stations; compressed natural gas, propane, hydrogen) • Advocate state and federal governments for tax incentives for AFV infrastructure • Hold lunch and learn sessions to make employees aware of costs and benefits of AFVs
	Optimizing logistics and vehicle trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimize transport and warehouse activity schedules to facilitate efficient movement of freight • Identify transportation system improvements that can increase efficiency and safety • Improve communications and data and technology sharing that benefits overall planning effort
	Promote Diesel Engine Upgrade or Replacement to Achieve NOx Reductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify high emitting, high use on-road or non-road engines used in heavy duty equipment • Apply for grants under federal or state incentive programs for upgrade or replacement of engines
	Promote the local and regional importance of reducing emissions and maintaining clean air for our public health and economic vitality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the Clean Air Upstate education/outreach program to employees and customers • Provide a link to the Clean Air Upstate web site • Promote the Clean Air Upstate Public Service Announcements • Schedule a Clean Air Upstate presentation to employees