Welcome to Houston, Texas, Home of TexAQS 2000

TS Beryl Heads Southwest

Tropical storm Beryl made landfall in northwest Mexico about 180 km southwest of Brownsville, Texas. The circulation around this depression will increase the likelihood of thunderstorms this afternoon and evening to around 40%. Other than that, should be a little cooler - low 90’s - with continued high humidity. According to one of my Houston acquaintances, the City Fathers - some years back - decided that “hot & humid” was too negative and decided to call these conditions “sunny.”

A Special TexAQS 2000 Thanks to...

Ron Lee

Ron Lee, our CapRock Office Building Manager, has made the best out of a bad deal - working with the TexAQS 2000 folks. Seriously, Ron has been Johnny on the spot when it comes to getting things done and accommodating our every need. He is one of many to whom we owe a debt of gratitude.

Opening TexAQS Reception

All participants of the Texas Air Quality Study 2000 (TexAQS 2000) are strongly encouraged to attend the kickoff meeting and social on August 15th at 6 PM CDT, at the Grand Hall in the Rice U. Memorial Center/Ley Student Union. Study leaders will provide brief status reports and be available to answer questions. Refreshments (wine, beer, cheese, fruit and veggies) will be available. Please plan on attending!

Simple Directions:
- 145 North to TX-288 South/ US-59 South

TexAQS 2000 Status Report

The Texas 2000 Air Quality Study will run from August 15 until September 15, 2000. Most surface air quality and meteorology monitoring stations will be fully operational by August 15. Aircraft monitoring operations will likely start August 18 after a final meeting with the FAA now scheduled for Thursday, August 17.

Ellington Field - The headquarters office space on the 3rd Floor of the CapRock Building (Suite 354, 12000 Aerospace Boulevard, Houston, TX 77034) is ready with the exception of the T-1 internet connection, which is to be installed today. The offices have been assigned, furniture setup, and the local area communication/printer network established by Cathy Burgdorf and
Ken Jamieson. The office telephones are in and the numbers follow:

- Main Office (Parkhurst, Burgdorf, Amidon) 281 929-1104
- Main Office Fax 281 929-1132
- TNRCC (Price, Rozacky, White) 281 929-1129
- DOE (Daum, Kleinman, Lee) 281 929-1128
- NOAA - AL (Solomon, Parish, Daniel) 281 929-1127
- NOAA - AL (Fehsenfeld, Meagher, Ryerson) 281 929-1126
- NOAA - AL (Trainer, Hübler) 281 929-1125
- NOAA - ETL (Senff, Olszyna) 281 929-1111
- DOE (Brecktel, W-Lloyd) 281 929-1114
- Weather Forecast Center (McNider, Martin, Nielson-Gammon) 281 929-1159

Ellington Flight Operations
- The Ellington hangar (Southwest Services) office space - which is being used to serve most air measurement crews - is in pretty good shape with the exception of T-1 and telephone service, which, hopefully, should be installed today. The Baylor Twin Otter arrived on Tuesday, August 8th, the DOE G-1 arrived on Sunday, August 13th, the NOAA DC-3 arrived on Monday, August 14th and the NOAA Electra should arrive Wednesday or Thursday.

LaPorte Level 3 Site/Particulate Matter “Supersite” - Both sites A & B are about 75% complete with about 50% of the measurement systems up and running. All principal investigators are on site. The LaPorte site coordinator, Eric Williams, is on site, and installation of equipment is proceeding as planned. The T-1 connection is being installed today and telephones have been installed. The main numbers are as follow:
- LaPorte (Trailer 19) 281 470-2572
- LaPorte (Trailer 20) 281 470-1035

Williams Tower - Things are shaping up nicely at the Williams Tower, a 900 foot tall building next to the Houston Galleria. Chet Spicer, Carl Berkowitz, Dan Imre, and their DOE and Battelle coworkers are installing the monitoring systems. The telephones have been installed, access ports for the sampling inlets are being prepared today, and additional 220 volt service is being established. The primary contact telephone numbers for the tower are:
- Williams Tower (North Room) 713 850-7189
- Williams Tower (South Room) 713 850-7180

Aldine, Bayland Park, Deer Park, HRM-3 - These four surface air quality monitoring sites are being supplemented by additional instrumentation. Ken Olszyna and Bill Hicks of TVA are installing high-sensitivity NO/NO₂/NO_Y systems at the Aldine and Bayland Park stations. “Supersite” instrumentation is largely in place at HRM-3 and Aldine. The Argonne National Laboratory mobile monitoring station has been installed at Deer Park. Some minor vandalism at the Deer Park site did not damage the Argonne instrumentation. An inadequate air conditioner in a TNRCC trailer at Aldine is keeping the NO/NO₂/NO_Y off-line, but work is under way to solve the problem. We are working with Procurement and Contracts to do an emergency procurement to replace the air conditioner with one adequate to handle the heat load in that trailer.

Schedule of Events

Science Overview Meeting - Tuesday, August 22nd - 8:00 PM
Media Day - Thursday, August 24th - 2:00 PM
VIP Day - Wednesday, August 30th

Thoughts for the Day

“In theory, there is no difference between theory and practice. But, in practice, there is.”

- Jan L.A. van de Snepscheut

“I don’t know why we are here, but I’m pretty sure that it is not in order to enjoy ourselves.”

- Ludwig Wittgenstein