

CAPCA Fall 2026 Annual Technical Workshop & Forum — Final Program Agenda

Session Day	Time Slot	Topic and Description	Chair	Speakers
Wednesday Morning	8:30 – 11:30 am	Pre-Conference Workshop (Pre-Registration and Additional Fee Required) - Chemical Reporting This workshop will provide detailed instruction on how to determine applicability of and conduct reporting for TRI and Tier 2.	Mark Hawes	E. Stefan Coutoulakis NC Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management Hazardous Materials Coordinator Jacob Bugaria Senior Consultant with Trinity's Mt. Pleasant Office
	11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Young Professionals Committee Lunch Meeting This luncheon affords the opportunity for new and established young professionals and CAPCA attendees to be introduced to the Fall Conference and the role of the Young Professionals committee and to network with both other young professionals and experienced environmental professionals.	Chance Shelley and William Kuriger	YP Committee Co-Chairs

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Wednesday Afternoon	1:30 – 1:40 pm	Conference Welcome and Introductory Remarks	Rob vandenMeiracker	
	1:40 – 3:00 pm	Hidden in Plain Sight: Common Regulatory Programs that are Often Overlooked Even experienced compliance teams can be challenged by lesser-known Clean Air Act requirements that create risk for utilities and manufacturers. This interactive panel brings together regulators from North and South Carolina alongside an industry representative to examine often-overlooked compliance requirements related to RICE MACT, refrigerants, ODS, HFCs, asbestos, PFAS, and other emerging regulatory issues.	Melvin Stroble	Zach Carfley, SC DES Heather Carter, NC DAQ Kris Waikins, West Fraser
	3:00 – 3:30 pm	BREAK		
	3:30 – 5:00 pm	When Things Go Wrong: Combustible Dust, Emergency Response, and Surviving an Inspection Failures in industrial operations can escalate quickly, especially when multiple risk areas intersect. This fast-paced session examines four distinct areas—combustible dust hazards, SSM regulatory revisions, emergency response, and regulatory inspections—focusing on key risks, regulatory expectations and practical compliance strategies. Attendees will also gain actionable insights to improve preparedness, response, and inspection readiness.	Margeaux Sembos	Chris Giusto, Hallam Rachel Hawkins, ES Integrated Kim Fail, TRC
	5:15 – 6:30 pm	Young Professionals Committee Cornhole Hour		
	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Symposium		

Session Day	Time Slot	Topic and Description	Chair	Speakers
Thursday Morning	8:30 – 8:40 am	Thursday Morning Welcome & Introductory Remarks		Amy Marshall, CAPCA President
	8:40 – 9:20 am	Update on Agency Actions Including NAAQS Reviews Status of the current NAAQS, the standards setting and designation process, GA EPD's efforts to remove exceptional events during the designation process, and how the regulated community can get engaged.	Rob vandenMeiracker	James Boylan, Air Protection Branch Chief, GA EPD
	9:20 – 10:30 am	NC and SC Updates These presentations will provide an update on air quality activities in the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (DES) and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).	Taylor Hartsfield	Mike Abraczinskas, Director Division of Air Quality NC Department of Environmental Quality Rhonda Banks Thompson, P.E., Chief Bureau of Air Quality SC Department of Environmental Services
	10:30 – 11:00 am	BREAK		
	11:00 – 11:25 am	NC and SC Updates Q&A Session Use the Whova app to submit questions for our morning speakers		
	11:25 – 12:00 pm	Industry Group Perspective: Regulatory, Legislative, and Economic Developments Affecting Manufacturers Join us for a timely discussion of the manufacturing and economic outlook across North and South Carolina. Drawing on experience from both industry and government, this interview-style session will examine the key regulatory, legislative, and policy developments affecting manufacturers today. Topics will include recent federal air regulatory initiatives, activity on Capitol Hill with potential implications for industry, and significant court decisions that continue to shape administrative agency authority and the federal regulatory landscape. We will discuss practical implications for regulated facilities, anticipated compliance challenges, and how industry is responding to an evolving legal and regulatory environment. Attendees are encouraged to submit questions in advance through the Whova app, as the session will be presented in an interactive interview format designed to address the issues most relevant to manufacturers and industry stakeholders.	Mallory Sparks	Kelley Spence, American Forest and Paper Association

	12:00 – 1:00 pm	LUNCH		
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Thursday Afternoon	1:00 – 1:30 pm	<u>Program Committee Meeting</u>	Rob vandenMeiracker	
	1:00 – 1:30 pm	<u>Young Professionals Meeting</u>	Chance Shelley	
	1:30 – 3:00 pm	Permitting Projects in Your 5-Year Capital Plan This session will walk through examples of how to consider projects in your 5-year capital plan for construction permitting under the New Source Review (NSR) program. In an interactive format, we will cover the following: defining the project, permitting strategies (avoiding versus triggering PSD, communicating the project to the public), project aggregation, permit exemptions, what analyses must be in a permit application, differences between NC and SC, and current NSR guidance (including begin actual construction and reactivation). Attendees will get reminders about important concepts in the NSR program and updates on the latest EPA regulatory and guidance activity in the context of “real life” project examples.	Amy Marshall	Jessie King, Maynard Nexsen Brandon Mogan, All4
	3:00 – 3:30 pm	BREAK		
	3:30 – 4:00 pm	How to do a successful stack test from an Industry Perspective You have a stack test coming up, and it's been a while since the last one. What should you do to prepare? Join us to find out. We will review the do's and don'ts of stack testing preparation and common pitfalls that arise. Don't leave it to the last minute; start planning your next stack testing protocol now.	Victoria Morton	Sanjam Singh, All4
	4:00 – 5:00 pm	Ethics for Professionals (& Insights for Clients) The presentation will touch on the regulation of the engineering & legal professions with a focus on the topics of conflicts of interest and client confidentiality. The session will explore practical application of the rules and also include discussion beneficial for industrial clients to be aware of. At the conclusion of the presentation, both professional and client-side attendees should have an increased awareness of and greater familiarity with the rules applicable to such engagements. A certificate of attendance will be provided to those present who need to meet their PE continuing education ethics requirement.	Pierce Werner	Beth Partlow, Law Offices Of Elizabeth B. Partlow, LLC Ralph McGee, Hart & Hickman
	5:30 – 7:30 pm	Symposium in Exhibit Hall		

Session Day	Time Slot	Topic and Description	Chair	Speakers
Friday Morning	7:30 – 9:00 am	Checkout, breakfast in the Exhibit Hall, exhibitor giveaways in the Exhibit Hall		
	9:00 – 9:05 am	Friday Morning Welcome and Announcements		Amy Marshall, CAPCA President
	9:05 – 10:35 am	Artificial Intelligence in Environmental Practice — Practical Examples of How You Can Use AI to Assist You, and a Few Examples of How AI Can Provide Bad Results Artificial intelligence is quickly moving from buzzword to daily workflow tool in environmental practice. This session offers a ground-truth look at how AI is being used today in air quality consulting — with real examples of what works and what does not. On the "works" side: document extraction from stack tests and PDFs, regulatory research assistance, anomaly detection in CEMS data, drafting support for repetitive reports, and gap analysis for permit submittals. On the "does not" side: real cases where AI confidently produced wrong answers, from hallucinated citations to misread data. The takeaway — AI is a powerful assistant, but professional judgment, verification, and human review remain non-negotiable for compliance.	Rob vandenMeiracker	Ilya Alimov, TRC Jeff Wheeler, Air Techniques
	10:35 – 11:45 am	Data Centers: Energy Demand and Environmental Considerations We covered power/energy topics in recent conferences but have not focused specifically on data centers — This session will include a panel discussion focused on the many challenges associated with data center development, from air permitting and water use to power demand, reliability, and onsite generation considerations.	Mark McIntire	Christina Cress - Ward and Smith Josh Brooks, Waybright, LLC Ben Snowden - Fox Rothchild
Immediately following the meeting there will be a membership meeting. Following the membership meeting, there will be door prizes and giveaways for attendees. Please travel home safely!				