

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
July 7, 2015
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Present:

Ram Tangirala, District Department of the Environment
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Mike Kiss, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment
Colleen Turner, Maryland Department of Transportation
Lyn Ericson, Maryland Department of Transportation
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Austina Casey, District Department of Transportation
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
John Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute

Staff:

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Steve Walz, COG/DEP
Maia Davis, COG/DEP
Brandon Fax, COG/DEP
Kanti Srikanth, COG/DTP
Ron Milone, COG/DTP
Dusan Vuksan, COG/DTP
Eulalie Lucas, COG/DTP
Jane Posey, COG/DTP

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary

Tad Aburn called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The May 12 meeting summary was approved without any changes.

2. Ozone Season Update

Sunil presented an overview of the 2015 ozone season data till date. Doris suggested changing VA CAIR rule to VA CSAPR rule since the latter overruled the former. Since the PM_{2.5} design value was not available from EPA yet, Virginia and Maryland promised to send their data to staff for including them in future presentations. John suggested taking care while presenting the slide showing relationship between 90 degree days and the number of ozone exceedance days. Jim asked about the role of Canadian wild fire on ozone levels in Washington area. Sunil said they seemed to have some role though it was not clear to what extent. Doris said EPA does not think that the wild fires have any role in ozone formation. Tom said even after submitting a lot of supporting documentation, EPA does not allow the request to discount high ozone levels due to “exceptional events”. Ram agreed with Tom that it is not worth spending time on developing documentation for such a request since it is never granted. Jim said EPA is expected to develop a guidance document by the end of 2016.

3. Update on Appendix D

Sunil discussed status of various items listed in the Appendix D of the PM2.5 maintenance plan.

- a. Sunil discussed status and timeline for the revision of the PM2.5 maintenance plan and mobile budgets. He specifically discussed the status of various emissions inventories. Ram suggested the need to arrange a call for the emission inventory sub-committee to discuss the development of emissions inventories, which was agreed to by members.
- b. Sunil discussed the status of the RFP document. He said a preliminary document was presented to TAC a few months ago and can be revised if members feel the need to do so. Doris suggested waiting until TPB completes its 2015 CLRP analysis performed using MOVES2014 so that emission from this model could be used in revised RFP calculations. Diane asked how Regional Action Plan fits into RFP. Sunil explained that the emissions reductions from RAC could help meet RFP emission reduction requirements.
- c. Sunil discussed the feasibility of (and getting SIP Credit for) achieving emissions reductions across the entire region from market forces that will result in cleaner products being distributed across the entire region even when the regulations driving the cleaner products have only been adopted in a part of the region. He presented the status of the implementation of various OTC rules over the years. Except for the Mobile Equipment Repair and Refinishing rule based on OTC's 2009-2013 model rule, which has been implemented only in Maryland as of May 2015, rest all OTC model rules developed in 2001 and 2006 have been implemented in all three jurisdictions. Since this rule applies to a process and not a product, it is not clear how much benefits it could provide to other jurisdictions.
- d. Sunil discussed the development of new regulatory and voluntary control measures if in case transportation buffers are triggered in the Washington region. The District and Maryland will work to adopt five new regulations in the event transportation buffers are triggered. These are low sulfur home heating fuel, enhancements to current controls on consumer products and industrial adhesives, off-road idling, and tougher requirements for smaller boilers. Virginia will also pursue measures such as; motor vehicles being provided the option of remotely passing the biannual inspections by 2015. Additionally, Virginia plans to pursue voluntary energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. Organizations, such as the non-profit Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP) run residential and commercial energy use reduction programs. Regional Action Plan adopted recently by MWAQC covers a number of such state and local measures and implementation of this plan will extend this aspect of Appendix D further.

4. Update on Regional Action Plan Measures & Follow-Up Actions

Steve presented an overview of the RAC plan. Maia discussed the tracking-sheet, which will be used for tracking progress for various state and local measures. Diane asked if there will be more details sought for the green power purchasing and emissions benefits calculated for each measure. Steve said that more details will be provided for green power purchasing and there needs to be internal discussion first regarding calculation of emission benefits.

5. Kanti Srikanth's Testimony on the Clean Air Act

Steve provided an overview of the testimony provided by Kanti Srikanth to the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee. He summarized the key points of the testimony. Kanti presented the testimony as a transportation practitioner and not as a TPB nominee. Steve also mentioned the follow-up letter sent by Dave Snyder to the above committee. A few members felt

that they would have been informed before the testimony was presented. Ron said he would pass this information to Kanti. He said there is a history of AMPO inviting transportation staff to present testimonies like this.

6. CO Monitoring Network & Conformity Issues

Sunil presented an overview of the CO monitoring network issue in light of the CO conformity requirements going away in 2016. Ram said even when CO levels are going down in Washington, DC there are still two monitors operating. He contacted EPA regarding downsizing monitoring requirements, but according to EPA it is not a straight forward process. Doris tried to get a letter from EPA on this issue, but has not received it yet. Diane mentioned New Jersey's second and final CO maintenance plan, through which they got rid of CO monitoring requirements. She promised to send that document to the group.

7. Court Ruling on Mercury & Toxics Rule (MATS)

Jeff briefed members on the recent court ruling on the MATS rule. The ruling does not affect DC and MD's power plants since they already introduced changes based on the rule. John said a few plants might ask for a one year extension to comply with the rule.

8. State and Local Updates

Virginia did not have any updates. Ram said DC just finished working on the PM2.5 infrastructure SIP. Diane informed the group about Maryland's Air Quality Advisory Committee meeting on August 5th.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.