

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

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TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: October 9, 2007

Time: 10 am to 12 pm

Place: COG Board Room

DRAFT Agenda

- 10:00 1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary (September 11, 2007)**
Chairman Cecily Beall, District Department of the Environment
- 10:10 2. PM_{2.5} Emission Inventory Development**
Sunil Kumar, COG DEP, and Mike Clifford, COG DTP, will discuss the status of emission inventories for the PM_{2.5} SIP.
- 10:25 3. PM_{2.5} Attainment Modeling**
Tom Ballou, Virginia DEQ, will discuss attainment modeling documentation for the PM_{2.5} SIP.
- 10:40 4. PM_{2.5} SIP Control Measures**
Jeff King, COG DEP, will discuss a draft RACM analysis, local government initiatives, and contingency planning for the PM_{2.5} SIP.
- 11:00 5. PM_{2.5} SIP Schedule**
Joan Rohlfs, COG DEP, will briefly review the PM_{2.5} SIP schedule.
- 11:10 6. Climate Change Steering Committee and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Workgroup**
Joan Rohlfs, COG DEP, will provide an update on the Climate Change Steering Committee.
- 11:25 7. Ozone Season Summary**
Sunil Kumar, COG DEP, will provide a summary of the ozone season to-date.
- 11:35 8. Other Business**
- 11:40 9. State and Local Air Agency Report**
- 11:50 10. Set Date for Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, Adjourn**
Next TAC Meeting: November 13, 2007



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**MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
September 11, 2007 10am to 12pm
Teleconference**

Present:

Tad Aburn, Maryland Department of Environment
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Cecily Beall, District Department of the Environment
Bhesh Dhamala, Fairfax County Department of Health
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of Environment
Barbara Hardy, Fairfax County Department of Health
Brian Hug, Maryland Department of Environment
Maurice Keys, District Department of Transportation
John Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Bob Owolabi, Fairfax County Department of Transportation
Pam Parker, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Mark Rawlings, District Department of Transportation
Bill Skrabak, City of Alexandria
Howard Simons, Maryland Department of Transportation (by teleconference)
Bob Stroik, National Park Service
Didian Tsongwain, Prince George's County Department of Environment
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Flint Webb, Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

Staff:

Mike Clifford, COG/DTP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Joan Rohlfis, COG/DEP

Observers/Participants:

Charley Baummer, MWAA
Julie Crenshaw Van Fleet, AQPAC
Tim Lavallo, Consultant

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary (July 9, 2007). Ms. Beall called the meeting to order at 10:10. The minutes of the July 9, 2007 meeting were approved with a minor editorial change suggested by Maurice Keys, adding the word "be" to the clause "should not be required."

2. Proposed Ozone NAAQS

Jeff King reviewed the status of a draft MWAQC comment letter on EPA's proposed ozone NAAQS. He said that MWAQC members asked to review the draft letter before being sent to EPA. The letter was revised to reflect several comments from VDOT, DDOE, and MDE. Language was added to urge EPA to provide flexibility and assist with control measure development, and provided more details on the CASAC recommendations. Howard Simons and Jim Ponticello asked that the letter not include mention of specific levels for the new NAAQS. He recommended that the letter mention that the new standard should be set at a level that is protective of public health based on sound science. John Kinsman suggested that the letter include mention of EPA's preferred range for the new standard. Flint Webb said he could not support that approach. Members agreed to use more generic language when referring to the levels for the new standard. Joan Rohlf's said that staff would revise the draft letter and circulate to members for approval before finalizing.

3. PM_{2.5} SIP Schedule

Joan Rohlf's discussed the PM SIP Schedule. As currently planned, the TAC will receive a draft SIP in November. The MWAQC is scheduled to approve the draft SIP for public comment in December. The March MWAQC meeting will need to be rescheduled to earlier in the month so there is sufficient time to meet the April 2008 SIP deadline. Currently, the main challenge in completing the SIP is finalizing the inventory. Tom Ballou said that the current OTB/OTW modeling indicates that the region is predicted to be in attainment of the standard. No additional annual runs are planned. DEQ will provide modeling documentation for the SIP. Completed inventories are needed before contingency plans can be developed. In November, MWAQC is also scheduled to comment on this year's conformity demonstration.

Bill Skrabak asked about the status of local hotspot modeling. He said that the City of Alexandria cannot support the SIP unless it addresses the hotspot in Alexandria caused by the Mirant Potomac River Power Plant. Brian Hug said that EPA is hosting a meeting in October to address local hotspot modeling. Tom Ballou said that Virginia has asked EPA if it can attend the meeting. He said that it may be difficult given the timing and lack of guidance to address Alexandria's concerns and include specific local hotspot modeling in the SIP. He said there are other avenues to address the concerns, such as modeling to support an Air permit for the facility which can be worked into the SIP. Bill Skrabak said that the city was told by EPA and Virginia DEQ that the appropriate place to address the local hotspot concern is in the PM_{2.5} SIP.

4. PM_{2.5} Emission Inventory Development

Sunil Kumar discussed the status of emission inventories for the PM_{2.5} SIP. He said the following inventory items are outstanding: controlled point sources for 2009; District base year area sources; and on-road mobile for 2002 and 2009. COG will grow the base year area source inventory to 2009 using growth factors and control percentages. The base year data will all need to be in NIF 3.0 format. On-road emissions should be available by the end of September. Sunil Kumar said he'd follow up with the states on several technical inputs, including ethanol oxygen content and market share, and several 2009 nonroad inputs (% stage II and fuel oxygen content).

Sunil Kumar asked about base year 2002 submittal requirements. Tom Ballou and Brian Hug said that the requirement is not as rigorous as the June 2006 inventory requirement for ozone. As such, the states plan to send to EPA whatever is available at the time. The official inventory will be subject to public hearings and will be submitted as part of the SIP.

5. PM_{2.5} Control Measures

Jeff King discussed development of control measures for inclusion in the PM_{2.5} SIP. At a recent control measures workgroup call, there was general agreement that the SIP control strategy would consist of the slate of OTB/OTW measures and that there would be no BOTW measures included formally in the SIP for credit. Instead, the SIP would include a supplemental control measures section that addressed the concept that there are other regions downwind of the region that aren't modeling attainment, and the standard should be lower to better protect public health, therefore the states are considering and implementing a variety of BOTW initiatives. Brian Hug agreed and said that the supplemental control section could include such measures as teleworking, high electricity demand day initiatives, and clean distributed generation. Tad Aburn said that exposure to PM is linked to mortality, and that there is no threshold of effect. He said that new common-sense measures that could reduce this risk should be pursued and included in the SIP.

6. PM_{2.5} Town Hall Meeting

Joan Rohlfs discussed plans for an Air Quality Town Hall meeting in the Fall. Similar to the Town Hall meeting held for the ozone SIP, AQPAC is planning a meeting in November to focus on particle pollution and climate change. Another theme will be one strategy for multiple pollutants. Staff are working to identify a panel of speakers and are preparing an outreach brochure. Joan Rohlfs asked that members contact her with any suggestions for speakers or topics.

7. COG Climate Change Steering Committee and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Workgroup

Joan Rohlfs discussed the recent meeting of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Workgroup. The workgroup agreed to recommend a 2005 base year, interim years of 2020 and 2030, and a milestone year of 2050. Members discussed possible reduction target but deferred action to the next meeting. The workgroup also heard a report on 2005 base year emissions for the regions and projections out to 2030. The Climate Change Steering Committee is scheduled to meet on September 26.

Joan Rohlfs said that states are now engaged in their own climate change initiatives. Brian Hug said that Maryland has formed a Climate Change Commission and a Mitigation Workgroup. Proposed reduction targets may be available by the middle of November. Tom Ballou said that climate change discussions in Virginia are in preliminary stages, and that Virginia may have different base and milestone years. Joan Rohlfs said that the District has expressed interest in including 1990 as a base year. Local governments said that base years prior to 2005 are problematic given lack of data.

8. Ozone Season Summary

Sunil Kumar provided a summary of the ozone season to-date. As of September 6, for ozone, there were 14 code orange days and 59 code yellow days. The peak ozone concentration was 100 ppb on June 18, 2007 at the Southern Maryland monitor. Eleven monitors exceeded the standard on that day. The most recent exceedance was on September 5, with the highest concentration of 89 at the Frederick monitor. For PM_{2.5}, as of September 6, there were 3 code orange days and 61 code yellow days. The highest concentration was 46 ug/m³ on August 7.

Flint Webb asked about a rolling average for the annual PM standard. Sunil Kumar said that based on data from September 6, 2006 to September 6, 2007, the highest rolling average is 12.4 ug/m³ at the Beltsville site.

9. Other Business

Jeff King said that a letter was sent to TPB on the precursor significance determination. He referred members to a copy of the letter in the packet.

Joan Rohlfs said that the District is promoting a car free day on September 18.

10. State and Local Air Agency Report

Brian Hug reported for Maryland. Recent modeling results indicate that Baltimore region is predicted to be below 15 ug/m³ in 2009, but will be in the weight of evidence range. MDE is working with the University of Maryland on weight of evidence documentation. He suggested a conference call with COG, Virginia DEQ, and others to discuss how to work the write-up into the SIP. Two of the three Maryland OTC VOC rules are complete. The adhesives and sealants rule is still pending. A rule to implement RGGI will be sent to the Advisory Council by the end of the year. Staff are also actively engaged in the Maryland Climate Change Commission process.

Tom Ballou reported for Virginia. The Virginia Air Pollution Control Board is meeting next Thursday on the Mirant plant in Alexandria. Next month the Board will be meeting to act on the Virginia CAIR regulation which, after Mirant successfully petitioned, was opened for reconsideration. At issue is the no-trading provision in the regulation. The Virginia OTC VOC rules are in process. Virginia is also preparing a regional haze SIP.

Cecily Beall reported for the District. The District is working on a regional haze SIP, the OTC VOC rules, the CAIR rule, and the "infrastructure" SIP. Tom Ballou explained that the infrastructure SIP is a result of a Consent Decree. It is a SIP revision related to authority to implement portions of Title I of the Clean Air Act, specifically as it relates to interstate transport.

Cecily Beall said that the military has commented on the Consumer Products rule, specifically requesting an exemption. A use-by-date is being considered as an option to respond to the comment.

11. Set Date for Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, Adjourn:

The next TAC Meeting will be held on October 9, 2007. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50.