

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
September 11, 2018, 10:00 AM to 11:40 AM

Present:

Joseph Jakuta, District Department of Energy & Environment
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Alex Brun, Maryland Department of the Environment
Marcia Ways, Maryland Department of the Environment
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Norman Whitaker, Virginia Department of Transportation
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Colleen Turner, Maryland Department of Transportation
Gary Greening, Maryland Department of Transportation
Tina Casey, District Department of Transportation
Mike Lake, Fairfax County
Paulo Delita, Prince William County Department of Transportation
John Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute

Staff:

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Steve Walz, COG/DEP
Amanda Campbell, COG/DEP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Tim Masters, COG/DEP
Jane Posey, COG/DTP
Dusan Vuksan, COG/DTP
JC Park, COG/DTP
Kanti Srikanth, COG DTP

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary

Cecily Beall called the meeting to order at 10 am. The July 10th meeting summary was approved without any changes.

2. Ozone Season Summary

Sunil Kumar presented the summary of the ozone season data as of September 10th. There were 8 code orange days and 1 code red days until that day, which were all influenced by both local and transported emissions. The draft design values for 2018 is 72 ppb (McMillan monitor) based on data thus far. There was a total of 3 monitors with design values above 70 ppb this year. Besides high temperature, wind recirculation was very important on the code red and a few ozone exceedance days.

3. Draft Visualize 2045 Transportation Conformity Analysis

Jane Posey discussed the Visualize 2045 conformity analysis. The analysis includes updates to financial plan, demographics, modeling tools, projects, programs, and policies. It uses the co-operative forecast round 9.1, 2016 VIN data, and Travel Demand Model ver. 2.3.75. The regional priorities reflected in update include increased housing to improve economic competitiveness, improved metro rail reliability, and reduced congestion. It uses new 2008

Ozone Maintenance Plan Tier 2 mobile emissions budgets. The analysis shows that while total VMT increases between today and 2045, VMT per capita decreases during the same period by 3%. After 2020, vehicle hours of delay decrease between 2025 and 2045. Likewise, there is a decline in total and per capita CO2 emission and transit trips in the future. Sunil mentioned that the transportation conformity sub-committee will be discussing a draft comment letter for MWAQC on the conformity issue soon. He urged members to provide their inputs for the letter by September 18th.

4. Draft Joint MWAQC/CEEPC/TPB Comment Letter – EPA Proposed SAFE Vehicle Rule

Sunil Kumar discussed the draft joint MWAQC/CEEPC/TPB comment letter for EPA's proposed SAFE vehicle rule. Steve mentioned that the letter is consistent with the comment letter of MDE Secretary and with the MWAQC's September 2017 comment letter on this issue. Sonya spoke about Tom Ballou's comments on the 4th paragraph, last sentence of the letter, which talked about mandated environmental objectives. Steve suggested changing that to environmental standards and deleting the words "mandated". Sonya agreed with the suggested changes.

5. Draft Joint MWAQC/CEEPC Comment Letter – EPA Proposed Affordable Clean Energy Rule

Tim Masters discussed the draft joint MWAQC/CEEPC comment letter for EPA's proposed ACE rule. Doris asked why was the NSR issue not included in the letter. Steve responded by saying that the NSR issue is beyond the authority of MWAQC, but that could be included if MWAQC-TAC wants it. Doris said she was not sure about that as she did not have a chance to talk to the upper management yet. Steve said that once MWAQC staff gets all the inputs from state air agencies on NSR, we will revise the letter and send it to MWAQC-TAC. John Kinsman referred to the 3rd paragraph in the letter and said that the power sector only constitutes 10% of total NOx emission. Therefore, this sector alone cannot solve the ozone problem by itself. Steve said that the MWAQC staff will revise the letter incorporating John's comments.

6. Update on Volkswagen Emission Mitigation Plan

State air agencies provided updates on their VW mitigation plans. Joseph Jakuta (DOEE) mentioned the switcher engines will be replaced at Union Station. Electric buses will be purchased for the circulator buses. DERA funds will be used to replace diesel transit trucks. DOEE will be hiring a full-time employee for the mitigation plan project. Marcia Ways (MDE) mentioned that the plan has money allocated for the EV infrastructure, Environmental Justice, and alternative fleet (Freedom Fleet). The plan will also replace diesel school and transit buses. Jeff asked about using DERA funds. Marcia said the use of that fund depends on the items. Doris McLeod (VDEQ) said the plan will fund the EV infrastructure across Virginia. She said that the plan was submitted to the trust in August 2018 and is posted on the DEQ web-site. She said that once VDEQ receives proposals for projects along with the associated cost/benefit analyses, they will be selected.

7. State & Local Updates

Maryland & Virginia – None.

District – Joseph said that the District submitted the NOx RACT SIP for the 2008 ozone standard.

8. Adjourn

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am.