

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

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MEETING NOTICE

Date: March 25, 2009

Time: 12:00 pm– 2:00 pm

**Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol St., NE, 3rd Floor, Board Room
Washington, D.C. 20002**

Orientation for New Members at 11 am, DEP Conference Room
Lunch will be available for members at 11:30 a.m.

AGENDA

- 12:00 1. Call to Order; Approval of Minutes, Chair’s Remarks**
- 12:15 2. Committee Reports**
 - A. Report of the Technical Advisory Committee**
 - B. Report of the Air Quality Public Advisory Committee**
 - C. Report of the Clean Air Partners**
- 12:30 3. Fine Particle Standard Remanded to EPA**
- 12:40 4. EPA: Proposed GHG Reporting Rule**
- 12:45 5. MWAQC FY 2010 Work Program and Budget**
- 1:05 6. Status of Local Air Quality Commitments**
- 1:15 7. Air Quality Monitor Network: Proposed Changes**
- 1:30 8. State and Local Air Reports
VDEQ: Exceptional Events**
- 1:40 9. New Business**
- 2:00 10. Date for Next Meeting and Adjourn**
Next Meeting Date: April 22, 2009

Item: 1. Public Comment, Approval of Minutes, Announcements, Chairman's Report

Presenter: Hon. Phil Mendelson, MWAQC Chair

Description:

After the public comment period, Chair will call for approval of Meeting Summary for February 25, 2009, and for amendments to the agenda.

Recommended Action:

Approve minutes

Item: 2. Committee Reports

- **Report of the Technical Advisory Committee**
Tom Ballou, Chair
- **Report of the Air Quality Public Advisory Committee**
Deron Lovaas, Chair
- **Report of the Clean Air Partners**
Harriet West, Managing Director

Item 3. Fine Particle Standard Remanded to EPA

**Presenters: Lee Ruck, Legal Counsel, COG Board of Directors
Joan Rohlfs, Chief, Air Quality Planning**

Description:

On February 24, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia remanded the 2006 annual fine particle standard (National Ambient Air Quality Standard) back to EPA. The court found that EPA did not adequately explain why the 2006 annual standard of 15 ug/m³ is sufficiently protective of public health with an adequate margin of safety. Mr. Ruck will discuss the court's action and Ms. Rohlfs will discuss the implications for regional air quality planning.

PM 2.5	Annual
EPA 1997	15 ug/m ³
Science Advisors	13 ug/m ³
EPA 2006	15 ug/m ³
Preliminary actual 2007	14.3 ug/m ³

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

News article

Item: 4 EPA: Proposed GHG Reporting Rule

Presenter: Jeff King, Senior Environmental Planner

Description:

On March 10 EPA proposed a draft greenhouse gas reporting rule. The rule, which will be proposed in the Federal Register soon, sets mandatory reporting requirements for emitting sources, defined as fossil fuel producers and vehicle and engine manufacturers. Sources emitting 25,000 metric tonnes CO₂ equivalent or more would be required to report for calendar year 2010. Staff will discuss the proposed regulation and its relation to voluntary reporting systems like the Climate Registry.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

Fact sheet

Item: 5 MWAQC FY 2010 Work Program and Budget

Presenter: Joan Rohlf, Chief, Air Quality Planning

Description:

The proposed MWAQC FY 2010 Work Program and Budget will support air quality planning to meet the future ozone standard and, possibly, a future lower annual fine particle standard, in addition to providing technical support for climate and energy initiatives in the region. The proposed budget for the core MWAQC programs remains unchanged from 2009. The Budget Committee reviewed the proposed budget in December and this month. The MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee reviewed the proposed work program and budget in March and recommended its adoption to MWAQC.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

Proposed MWAQC FY 2010 Work Program and Budget

**Item: 6 Status of Local Air Quality Commitments:
Results of Survey**

Presenter: Jeff King, Senior Environmental Planner

Description:

The region's air quality plans (SIPs) contain several local government programs to reduce ozone and fine particle pollution. The local government plans are non-regulatory, or "voluntary," but need to be tracked annually to determine if the SIP commitments are being met. Staff surveys local governments annually regarding their progress in implementing local voluntary commitments, including energy efficiency, green power purchases, and tree canopy programs. Overall, the region is on track in meeting its commitments in the voluntary bundle. One outstanding item is for states to retire NO_x allowances commensurate with the emission reduction credits for renewable energy and energy efficiency measures.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

Powerpoint

Summary table

Item: 7 Air Quality Monitor Network: Proposed Changes

Presenter: Sunil Kumar, Senior Environmental Engineer

Description:

The proposed Fairfax County budget includes elimination of funding for Fairfax County operated air quality monitors. The measure would save \$230,000 in the County's Department of Health budget. The five monitors are used to track concentrations of ozone and fine particles. Staff will discuss how the monitors are used in the air quality plan (SIP) and for air quality forecasting. A public hearing on the proposal will be held on March 30, 31, and April 1.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

powerpoint