

# Air Quality Public Advisory Committee

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<http://www.mwcog.org/environment/committee/>

The Air Quality Public Advisory Committee (AQPAC) is an advisory body to the  
Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC).

Meeting Minutes  
Monday, December 10, 2007  
Room 3  
5:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.

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## Members Present:

Jill Engel-Cox, Joint Center for Earth Systems Technology  
Julie Crenshaw Van Fleet, Episcopal Stewardship of Creation -Virginia  
Rodney Livingston, District Interracial Coalition for Environmental Equity  
Deron Lovaas, Maryland Urban  
George Gurley, Urban Protectors  
Larry Zaragoza, Northern Virginia  
Bill Butler, Mirant  
Lee Schoenecker, APA  
Ann Brown, Washington Academy of Sciences  
Jessica Daniels, District of Columbia

## COG Staff:

Joan Rohlfs, COG DEP

### 1. Call to Order, Adoption of Agenda

Chair Jill Engel-Cox called the meeting to order at 5:07 pm and the Agenda was adopted.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

The November minutes were approved.

### 3. Staff report on MWAQC, TAC, and CCSC

There was no MWAQC meeting.

TAC: Virginia DEQ is trying to schedule a meeting about Mirant, which will take place in January. The City of Alexandria requested a COG meeting, but COG said Mirant is a state issue. COG suggests that power plant issues be addressed in the PM SIP.

Public comment on the draft SIP will begin after December 21. Public hearings will occur at the end of January. The City of Alexandria proposed new language for the SIP that was more stringent than the state of Virginia's; compromise language may not make it into the draft before the next MWAQC meeting.

Stakeholder position openings are due on December 28.

CCSC: The Climate Change Steering Committee met on November 28. Staff reported on the Warner-Lieberman bill. They expressed interest in finding grants for local programs. Donald Boesch (U-MD, MD Climate Change Commission) discussed the impacts of climate change on the Chesapeake Bay; the presentation did not focus entirely on the Washington region.

The CCSC discussed state (MD, VA) and DC plans and efforts to address climate change. AQPAC discussed its role. Maybe AQPAC could promote the good work that local governments are doing; maybe we could integrate and focus the work of numerous groups by organizing a climate change summit; maybe we could offer a methodology for quantifying the improvements made by local efforts. Joan said that a climate change website is being developed by COG; maybe AQPAC could contribute to the website. She will bring information about website content to the next meeting. The visibility and priority of the CCSC and climate change within COG is a concern of some members. Lee, Larry, and Deron agreed to attend the next CCSC meeting (January 23) and report back to the AQPAC.

#### **4. Discussion of draft PM2.5 SIP**

A technical editor did review the draft PM2.5 SIP report. The comment period begins after December 21 and lasts for 30 days. The draft will be discussed at the next AQPAC meeting; members should send comments to Jill in advance of the meeting.

#### **5. Discussion of Benning Road ATSDR Health Consultation Report**

A Health Consultation report for the River Terrace community, dated November 2007, appeared on Joan's desk. It contains an action plan.

George Gurley said it does not include mention of his report on PEPCO violations, a FOIA requested by him in January, the consent decree, or other important details. AQPAC discussed other issues with the report: what reports is DC DOH receiving, and what are they doing with the information; are they analyzing data per month or just filing it away? Is the Benning Road plant worse or better than others? When is DOH going to submit a report, as mentioned on page 19? Samples taken (p. 31) are minimal, and not even valid for formaldehyde.

The report had been raised with MWAQC. Nancy Floreen asked DOH (now DC DOE) to follow through. Delivery of the report may have been in response to this request. Julie made the following motion: At MWAQC, Jill should ask Chair Floreen about her request to DOH for a report on the Benning Road Plant. The motion was seconded. AQPAC approved the motion.

#### **6. Election of 2008 AQPAC Officers**

Julie said that per the AQPAC bylaws, AQPAC members must be notified in writing of the nominations in advance and there must be the opportunity for nominations from the floor before any vote can be. Therefore, the membership will be officially notified and a vote will be postponed to the next meeting.

#### **7. New Business**

Rodney discussed how leaps and bounds on air quality and clean fuels are being made in other cities, such as Portland and San Francisco where they are using edible oils for power.

Julie attended a mercury symposium in Virginia. Information can be found at:  
<http://www.deq.state.va.us/info/symposium.html>

Larry discussed how Dominion Power has requested permission to increase capacity for the transmission of power. Larry further noted that a number of steps could be taken to reduce energy needs including solar power and LEEDS certified buildings. There is an opportunity to build agreement about long-term goals where there are simply different views about what to do. The climate change website being developed (discussed in section 3 of the minutes) could be a venue for educating the public about trade-offs and co-benefits, and perhaps could be a starting ground for collaboration on solutions.

The schedule of meetings for 2008 was reviewed.

**8. Next Meeting**

The next AQPAC meeting will take place on January 14.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 pm.