

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
March 11, 2014
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Present:

Ram Tangirala, District Department of the Environment
Cecily Beall, District Department of the Environment
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Mike Kiss, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Tad Aburn, Maryland Department of the Environment
Brian Hug, Maryland Department of the Environment
Molly Berger, Maryland Department of the Environment
Lyn Erickson, Maryland Department of Transportation
Howard Simons, Maryland Department of Transportation
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Austina Casey, District Department of Transportation
Maurice Keys, District Department of Transportation
Barbara Hardy, Fairfax County Health Department
Gwen Kennedy, Loudoun County
Malcolm Watson, Fairfax County
Walter Seedlock, MWAA
John Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute

Staff:

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Jennifer Desimone, COG/DEP
Steve Walz, COG/DEP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Leah Boggs, COG/DEP
Maia Davis, COG/DEP
Elena Constantine, COG/DTP
Jane Posey, COG/DTP
Eulalie Lucas, COG/DTP
Jinchul Park, COG/DTP

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary

Chair Tad Aburn called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The February 11 meeting summary was approved without any changes.

2. Reasonable Further Progress (RFP) Plan

Sunil Kumar discussed the outline of the RFP plan, its components, emissions inventory development requirements and a preliminary schedule. He mentioned that the information presented is based on the draft ozone implementation guidance published by EPA in June 2013 and therefore may change once the guidance is finalized. He specifically referred to the uncertainty related to need for developing non-creditable emission reductions in the above guidance. He also pointed to the fact that the current plan schedule may need to be extended beyond the current FY2014 period due to the uncertainties associated with the timeline for the final guidance.

There was a discussion regarding the need for control measures for the RFP plan. A preliminary RFP calculation presented in the September 10, 2013 meeting of the MWAQC-TAC demonstrated that the Washington region met the RFP requirement of 15% emission reduction during the period 2011 through 2017. It was decided that the staff will develop RFP inventories using the most current data available. If there is a need for additional emissions reductions to meet the RFP requirement, MWAQC will discuss and develop new control measures to achieve those reductions. It was also decided to start discussion on new control measures in light of a new tougher ozone standard EPA is expected to propose in early 2015 and finalize in late 2015.

The RFP plan is being developed in anticipation of the region being redesignated as moderate nonattainment area for the 2008 ozone standard if it fails to achieve the standard by December 31, 2015. Since EPA may redesignate the area in 2016, Sunil said the region will likely be required to develop and submit the RFP plan in that year using the most current data available at that time. Accordingly, emissions inventories being developed currently might need to be updated at that time to incorporate the latest available emissions inventory data, calculation methodologies, models, and related inputs.

3. VOC & NH₃ Inventories (PM_{2.5} Redesignation Request & Maintenance Plan)

Sunil Kumar briefed members about a recent EPA request to provide VOC and NH₃ emissions inventories for the PM_{2.5} Redesignation Request & Maintenance Plan. Tom Ballou discussed a summary of VOC and NH₃ emissions for 2017 and 2025 compiled from different sources. These inventories have already been submitted to EPA in March.

4. Updated PM_{2.5} & NO_x Annual Mobile Budgets for 2017 and 2025

Sunil Kumar discussed a preliminary schedule for revising PM_{2.5} and NO_x mobile budgets, which were submitted to EPA in 2013 as part of the PM_{2.5} Redesignation Request & Maintenance Plan. Tad said mobile budgets need to be updated by June 2015. This will provide sufficient time for the revised plan (with updated mobile budgets) to undergo public hearing and comment process and its submission to EPA by December 2015 as agreed to in the Appendix D of the above plan. The above schedule included revision of mobile budgets using the expected new version of the mobile model (MOVES2014). Elena said it will not be possible to develop mobile budgets with MOVES2014 due to the uncertainties associated with the timeline for the new model, training needs, development of any new inputs or conversion of existing inputs into the required new format, and evaluation of the new model. Instead, she asked if the budgets can be developed with the current version of the model (MOVES2010a). Tad said the new model is expected to be published in Spring this year so budgets can be developed by June 2015. However, he agreed to the use of MOVES2010a in light of the above issues associated with the new model, but suggested compressing the schedule to allow submission of the revised plan by December 2015.

5. 2014 CLRP Scope of Work & Schedule

Jane Posey discussed the scope of work and schedule for the 2014 CLRP (Conformity) analysis. Howard Simons asked why MOVES2010b is not being used in the conformity analysis. Jane said EPA allows the use of MOVES2010a and there is not much difference in emissions outputs between the two model versions. Elena said it is not worth time switching to MOVES2010b given the minor differences in emissions.

6. Gold Book

Jeff King discussed the details of Gold Book measures currently being developed. He said there can be a mechanism to include these measures in RFP plan, Region Forward, and other documents. Ana Prados asked how these measures can be utilized by public. Jeff said ACPAC is interesting in prioritizing these measures and Clean Air Partners can also suggest something in that regard. Tad said Maryland supports the Gold Book measures and wants new strategies for the new expected tougher ozone standard. He also

expressed his desire to work with local governments on expanding electric vehicle infrastructure. He also suggested including freight movement and TCI initiatives in the Gold Book. Maurice keys suggested including voluntary bundle measures in slide 6 also for the new ozone SIP.

7. Future MWAQC-TAC & MWAQC Agenda Topics

Following suggestions were made regarding future agenda items for MWAQC and MWAQC-TAC meetings.

- a. Health impacts of ozone – This can include Washington, DC area health data related to ozone pollution. It was suggested that the American Lung Association be requested to make a presentation.
- b. Ozone transport – Virginia suggested a combined presentation on this topic with Maryland.
- c. MWAQC By-laws – A 15-minute overview of MWAQC by-laws was suggested for presentation.

8. Updates

a. Tier 3 Rule

Sunil briefed members about the final Tier 3 rule EPA published this month. The rule will provide substantial emissions benefits for VOC, NOx, PM2.5, SO2, CO, and toxics starting in 2017. The rule will also reduce gasoline sulfur content to 10 ppm in that year.

b. TPB/TPB-Tech Meeting

Sunil said a few members requested that the CLRP project be analyzed to evaluate their compliance with the goals in the Regional Transportation Priorities Plan, Region Forward, and COG climate change report goals. He said he will keep MWAQC_TAC members updated on this in future meetings.

8. State and Local Updates

Cecily Beall said that the District of Columbia will be publishing notice for the public comment period for the base year 2011 emissions inventory soon. Tad said Maryland is working on new regulations for diesel generators, Stage II rule, and Baltimore ozone SIP. Tom said that Virginia just published a notice for the public comment period for the base year 2011 emissions inventory.

The meeting ended at 12:00 pm.