

Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee

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

The Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC) is an advisory body to the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) and the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC)

Draft Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 16, 2014

Room 1

5:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M.

ACPAC Members: Andrew Kambour, Sally Kane, Chuck Kooshian, Glenna Tinney

Staff: Steve Walz, Maia Davis

Guest Speaker: Tad Aburn

1. Call to Order, Adoption of Agenda, Approval of Minutes (Andrew Kambour, Chair)

The agenda and minutes from May 2013 were approved.

2. Greenhouse Gas Standards for Power Plants (Andrew Kambour, Chair and Steve Walz, COG Director Environmental Programs)

The proposed rule released June 2, 2014 calls for 30 percent reductions in CO₂ from 2005 levels by 2030. EPA set state-specific reductions based on formula, not a specific percent reduction from a baseline year. In Maryland the goal is to go from a 2012 rate of 1,870 lbs/MWh to a final standard of 1,187. In Virginia it's to go from 1,297 rate in 2012 to a final 810 standard. There are no fossil plants that fall under regulation in the District of Columbia, so no standard is set. Potential compliance pathways:

- Decarbonization of power sector (retirements, fuel switching, nuclear, renewables)
- Efficiency at power plants (heat rate improvements)
- Environmental dispatch
- Demand-side efficiency (including grid upgrades)

The environmental benefits of fully implementing this standard include:

- Mitigates 730 million metric tonnes of CO₂
- 54,000 - 56,000 tons of PM_{2.5}
- 424,000 - 471,000 tons of sulfur dioxide
- 407,000 - 428,000 tons of nitrogen dioxide

3. Transport Update (Tad Aburn, Maryland Department of the Environment)

Tad provided an update on a host of issues related to transport including:

- Supreme Court has recently acted on the cross state air rule
- "Expand the OTR" Petition under Section 176A of the Clean Air Act (CAA)
- Challenges to EPA over large nonattainment areas (CAA Section 107)
- Challenges to EPA over "Good Neighbor" SIPs (CAA Section 110A2D)
- EPA's Transport Rule Process

- A collaborative effort between upwind and downwind states to address the ozone transport issue
- Some states looking at Section 126 Petitions

To highlight an example of the transport problem in Maryland Tad said on a high air quality day, the monitor in Beltsville shows that 70-75% of the pollution comes from outside the region. He also said the monitor in Harford, MD is the worst monitor on the east coast.

Tad stated that mobile sources will be the dominate air quality problem moving forward and asked ACPAC to aggressively support the electric vehicle movement.

4. Climate and Energy Awards Judging Process Review (Glenna Tinney, Vice Chair)

Glenna has participated in the Task Force for the development of the Awards Program and ACPAC is serving as the judging panel. Since the next ACPAC meeting will focus entirely on judging the awards, Glenna took the time to walk through the judging process. Award applications are due on June 18, 2014. In the week following, Maia will organize the applications and get them to ACPAC members for their review. ACPAC members are asked to review and fill in judging score sheets prior to the July ACPAC meeting. The July meeting has been moved back a week to July 21 to allow more time to review the applications. At ACPAC, strengths and weaknesses will be discussed for each application and members will be able to revise their scores, if they so choose. The discussions at the judging can also be used to help inform a debrief if any applicants request one. Final score sheets will be handed in at the end of the meeting and COG staff will tally the scores and the highest score in each category will be receive the award for their category.

Next meeting: July 21, 2014 – 5:30pm – 7:30pm
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