MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee 1-Page Summary of Policy-Relevant Issues May 8, 2007

Key policy-relevant issues discussed at the May 8 meeting are summarized below.

8-Hour Ozone SIP

- Public hearings on the 8-hour ozone SIP were held in April. MWAQC and the states received a total of 18 separate comments. TAC approved comment responses for recommendation to MWAQC and inclusion in the final SIP. Several minor technical revisions to the SIP will also be reflected in the final draft.
- A draft comment letter is being prepared that is supportive of the no trading provision in the Virginia CAIR regulations. Mirant successfully petitioned to reopen public comments on the Virginia CAIR Regulations.

PM2.5 SIP Development

• A joint meeting of the Attainment Modeling, Conformity, and Emission Inventory Subcommittees will be held to discuss significance findings for PM precursors. In addition to direct PM and the precursor NOx, other potential precursors include SO2, ammonia, and VOCs.

Emission Inventory Subcommittee

- The states are working on the 2005 PEI, which is due to EPA in June.
- States will provide COG DTP staff with NMIM inputs for evaluation prior to sending to EPA for calculation of non- and on-road emission inventories.

Conformity Subcommittee

• EPA recently released a proposed rulemaking and a guidance memorandum on Transportation Conformity for PM2.5. The guidance clarifies that the new PM2.5 NAAQS will not apply for conformity until one year after final designations. The proposed rule revises the conformity regulation to make it consistent with new provisions in SAFETEA-LU. The proposed revisions are not expected to affect the conformity process for the DC region.

Ozone Season Forecasting and Alerts

• A new web-based forecasting and alert system is being used for this ozone season. The system is operated from the Clean Air Partners Website. Users can sign up on-line to receive daily air quality forecasts and periodic alerts.

COG Climate Change Initiative

• The first meeting of the Climate Change Steering Committee will be held on May 23. The COG Board will appoint committee members on May 9, 2007.

State Air Agency Update

- Maryland is working to complete the public hearings for the Baltimore and Cecil County SIPs.
- The District is working to finalize the CAIR and OTC VOC regulations.

Upcoming Events

- AQPAC. May 14.
- Climate Change Steering Committee. May 23.
- MWAQC. May 23.
- TAC. June 8.