

Item 3

Amendment to FY 2006 MWAQC Work Program: PM_{2.5} Standard (“Fine Particle”)

EPA designated the Metropolitan Washington Region as nonattainment for the fine particulate standard, PM_{2.5}, in January 2005. The States of Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia must submit PM_{2.5} SIPs by April 2008.

As the approved MWAQC Work Program for 2005-FY 2006 covers planning for the 8-hour ozone standard and not for the fine particle standard, an amendment is proposed to address the need for PM_{2.5} planning. The proposed amendment would add three planning tasks to the approved Work Program.

Interstate Air Quality Council Request

The Interstate Air Quality Council (IAQC) is a cabinet-level collaboration between the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Virginia, comprised of the secretaries of the environment and transportation. IAQC transmits air quality planning proposals and materials to MWAQC for review and consideration. MWAQC transmits proposed plans and reports to the IAQC for submittal by the Governors and the Mayor to EPA.

In July 2005, the Interstate Air Quality Council met with MWAQC leaders to discuss regional air quality issues. At that meeting Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia requested that MWAQC continue its coordination role and include PM_{2.5} in the air quality planning process for the region. The IAQC proposed that three work activities be added and performed under the current FY05/FY06 MWAQC Work Program.

COG staff reviewed the fine particulate planning work done by the Regional Planning Organizations MARAMA and VISTAS for the regional haze program. Due to emissions inventories developed for regional haze modeling and SIP programs, the new work activities can be incorporated into the existing MWAQC work program within the approved budget for FY 06. The MWAQC leadership agreed to add the fine particulate planning activities to the work program and present it to MWAQC for approval.

Attached are the proposed fine particulate (PM_{2.5}) work activities to be added to the current approved 2005-FY 06 MWAQC Work Program.

AMENDMENT TO MWAQC 2005- FY 2006 Work Program

PM2.5 Work Tasks

IV. 2005-FY2006 Work Program Task Descriptions

1. Emissions Inventory Preparation

COG Staff will summarize and document progress made in developing base-year and attainment inventories using inventory data generated by the States. A report with the summary data covering the base-year and projection year inventory work will be presented in October 2005 and finalized in May 2006.

2. Control Measure Evaluation

COG staff will develop a list of PM2.5 control measures and analysis the measures for reduction potential, cost-effectiveness and multi-pollutant co-benefits. The list of potential fine particulate control measures will be added to the process to identify priority control measures. The list of measures and co-benefits will be completed by December 2005.

3. Transportation Conformity/Mobile Emission Analysis

COG staff will develop inputs to the mobile emissions model and review MOBILE6.2 factors for the PM2.5 conformity process. The PM2.5 conformity analysis for the Washington region will be completed by December 2005. The PM2.5 conformity process, including approval by FHWA, must be completed by April 5, 2006