



**Executive Committee Meeting
September 8, 2005
MWCOG Rooms 4 & 5
11:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Present:

Steve Arabia, Mirant
Sandra Handon, DC DOH
Maurice Keys, DDOT
Joseph Lewis, Baltimore County
Didian Tsongwain, Prince George's County

Guests:

John McCormick, Energy Policy Center

Staff:

Jen Desimone, MWCOG
Randy Mosier, MDE
Mike Rosen, PRR
Russ Ulrich, BMC
Denise Walz, PRR
Reider White, MDE
Harriet West, Clean Air Partners

Call to Order: Randy Mosier called the meeting to order at 11:05 am. The minutes of the June 9, 2005 meeting were approved as submitted.

Managing Director's Report: Harriet West

As of July 31, 2005, Clean Air Partners has a cash balance of \$337,535. To date, revenues are \$594,719 and expenditures are \$257,187.

Sponsorship payments of \$75,000 have been received. Paid sponsors include Constellation Energy, Fairfax County, Lockheed Martin, Mirant, Montgomery County, Washington Gas, and WMATA. Prince George's County has an outstanding invoice of \$10,000.

Membership invoices totaling \$11,250 were sent out in June (1st notice) and July (2nd notice). To date, payments in the amount of \$4,500 were received. Third and final invoices will go out in September. In order to meet our FY2006 membership goal, all current members must renew and an additional 17 organizations must join Clean Air Partners. Membership applications will be sent to targeted organizations in September.

2005 Awards Program: Harriet West

Due to the lack of Air Quality Action Days, the Awards Committee recommended cancelling the traditional awards program. Instead, a sponsor recognition program will take place. Plaques to recognize sponsors, media partners, and TV meteorologists will be prepared and presented to the individuals and organizations that have supported the program during the past year.

AQAD Team Report: Jen Desimone and Randy Mosier

The region experienced typical summertime weather conditions this summer, which led to 19 8-hour ozone exceedances in the Washington, DC area. Exceedances were recorded in June (3 days), July (6 days), August (8 days), and September (2 days). Highest ozone concentrations were observed during multi-day episodes in August. The Washington, DC area did not have a Code Red day. The Baltimore area exceeded the 8-hour ozone standard a total of 21 times and exceeded the 1-hour standard once. A Code Red Air Quality Action Day was forecasted on Saturday, August 13th, but was not observed.

Marketing Committee Report: Denise Walz

The radio campaign has concluded. The radio campaign received a net of 23 million impressions with 32% less funds than last year. The number of impressions increased 76% compared to the 2004 campaign. Comcast ran the television PSA in the same schedule as last year. There is the potential to develop and run a separate PSA during the winter months. DC Lottery was not able to support the Clean Air Partners print campaign this year. Overall campaign impressions totaled approximately 35 million, an increase of 26% with the dollar amount leveraged 311%.

A marketing strategic planning session will be planned for later this year.

Technical Advisory Committee Report: Harriet West

Harriet West provided an update on the voluntary business emission reductions project with the Printing Industry. The pilot project will ask printers in Northern Virginia to take voluntary actions to reduce emissions on Code Orange and Red days. A working group consisting of two printers, the president of PIVA (Printing Industries of Virginia), VADEQ staff, and Clean Air Partners staff will hold its first meeting on September 12th. This pilot project will serve as a basis for working with other industries, such as dry cleaners or auto body shops. Staff will work with other jurisdictions to determine which industry would provide the best emission reductions in their areas.

Randy Mosier asked if a recap email regarding this initiative be sent to the committee.

New Business

Steve Arabia updated the committee on the status of the closing of the Mirant power plant. The decision to temporarily close the plant arose from findings from a computer modeling study completed in August, 2005. Mr. Arabia stated that the action to close the plant was taken to respect the public health concerns of the community and the legal authority of Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VADEQ). The modeling results indicated that under some conditions the plant's emissions have the potential to contribute to localized (within a half mile), exceedances of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for PM₁₀, NO₂, and SO₂.

Until Mirant can satisfy VADEQ requirements, the plant will remain shut down unless it is required to return to operation by appropriate federal authority with the ability to order its operation notwithstanding the VADEQ directive. The plant will be operated occasionally to test technological modifications.

Adjournment: 12:10 pm.