

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20002-4290 (202) 962-3310 Fax: (202) 962-3202

MEMORANDUM

March 14, 2008

To: Jeff King

From: Mike Clifford

Subject: Request for Vehicle Registration Data / Files as of July 1, 2008 for the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia

Introduction

At the February 21, 2008 MWAQC TAC meeting, during my presentation of the TPB's air quality conformity work scope for the 2008 CLRP I mentioned that this year TPB staff plans to update Mobile6 input files based upon current vehicle registration data.

Continuing the cycle of updating such vehicle information every three years, we would like to obtain data as of July 1, 2008, consistent with EPA's recommendations for use in the Mobile model. Since the state air management agencies have been instrumental in obtaining these data in the past, I broached the subject at the TAC meeting to note the three year date is approaching and to see whether the air management agencies were willing to obtain the data files and provide them to us again this year.

Request

As suggested at the meeting, I am sending this memo to document the request and the data needed, to provide a basis for discussion as an agenda item at the next TAC meeting. Requested data include the vehicle identification number (VIN) for each vehicle registered in the Washington area (8-hour ozone nonattainment area) as of July 1, 2008 by jurisdiction (i.e., for the District of Columbia, and by city or county within Maryland and Virginia). Agency control totals by jurisdiction would also be helpful for cross-checking the data.

Subsequent Work Plan

As was done last year, following the receipt of the vehicle registration files TPB staff will read the data using 'VIN decoder' software purchased from ESP Data Solutions to yield vehicle type, fuel use, weight, and year of manufacture for each record. Subsequent tabulations of the data will yield the required vehicle age distributions and 'diesel sales fractions' for each of the Mobile6 vehicle types. These results will provide updated inputs to subsequent air quality conformity and SIP planning activities which require use

of the Mobile model. As the processing time for these activities is extensive, staff plans to be in a position to begin work as soon as the files can be delivered, hopefully, soon after the July 1 snapshot date. The results will provide a current cross-section of the region's vehicle fleet and will also enable examination of trends in the absolute number and age of vehicles in each category.

Next Steps

We would appreciate the assistance of the air management agencies in this effort and we look forward to working with, and sharing results of the analysis with, the TAC.

cc: Daivamani Sivasailam