

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
March 9, 2021, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Present:

Kelly Crawford, District Department of Energy & Environment
Alex Brun, Maryland Department of the Environment
Alexander Paulos, District Department of Energy & Environment
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Dan Goldberg, George Washington University
Demetra McBride, Arlington County
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
John Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute
Joseph Jakuta, District Department of Energy & Environment
Kari Snyder, Maryland Department of Transportation
Khoa Tran, City of Alexandria
Malcolm Watson, Fairfax County Department of Transportation
Mathew Gaskin, District Department of Transportation
Norman Whitaker, Virginia Department of Transportation
Ram Tangirala District Department of Energy & Environment,
Samuel Gaber, Fairfax County
Scott Fincham, Loudoun County
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Virginia Burke, Maryland Department of Transportation
Doug Estrada, Walmart

Staff:

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Jen Desimone, COG/DEP
Kanti Srikanth, COG/DTP
Dusan Vuksan, COG/DTP
Jane Posey, COG/DTP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Jinchul Park, COG/DTP
Mark Moran, COG/DTP
Tim Masters, COGDEP
Wanda Owens, COG/DTP
Jon Schermann, COG/DTP

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary

Kelly Crawford called the meeting to order at 10 am. The February 9th meeting summary was approved without any changes.

2. Walmart Sustainability Initiatives

Doug Estrada briefed members on Walmart's sustainability initiatives. Walmart adopted a number of goals such as, zero emissions by 2040, reach 100% renewable energy by 2035,

land ocean restoration, zero waste by 2025, recyclable and reusable packaging by 2025. Other initiatives include onsite and offsite renewables, renewable fuels, efficient technologies, energy management, building design, reduced maintenance, new refrigerants, low carbon fuels, advance electrification, truck refrigeration system running on electricity instead of diesel, power for driver amenities through APU instead of the main engine, and the use of Tesla battery operated trucks.

Doug mentioned that Walmart stores will be using renewable energy by 2030. In response to a query from Jeff, Doug said that there are about 100 Walmart electric vehicle deliveries in the Washington region each day. Kelly asked if Walmart has considered environmental justice and equity in its initiatives.

3. 2015 Ozone Planning Options

Sunil discussed a preliminary schedule for developing RFP and attainment SIPs for the 2015 ozone standard. Doris suggested adding 30 days to the schedule for including EPA's initial comments on SIPs. Virginia suggested adding to the schedule a consideration of planning options after an evaluation of 2021 ozone season data. Tom suggested COG staff to contact Virginia photochemical modeling staff regarding modeling analysis results for SIPs in addition to OTC and UMD/MDE modeling efforts. Kelly informed members that a decision will be made regarding the planning option for the 2015 ozone standard.

4. MWAQC Comment Letter – Section 184c Petition to EPA For Controls on Pennsylvania's EGUs

Sunil Kumar discussed a draft joint MWAQC comment letter supporting OTC's petition to EPA for implementing NOx emission controls on certain EGUs in Pennsylvania. Tom explained that Virginia's edits was meant to include a general language regarding the contribution of states other than Pennsylvania as well towards ozone transport to the Washington region.

5. 2020 VIN Data – Initial Thoughts

Dusan discussed initial thoughts on the 2020 VIN data. He said that all three jurisdictions provided data by February 2021. He informed members regarding the use of the July 2020 dataset instead of the January 2021 dataset for the VIN data analysis due to inherent issues in the later dataset. DOEE staff had informed TPB staff that the January 2021 dataset might not include all registered vehicles in the District as the deadline for registration was extended due to the pandemic. Dusan said that TPB staff concurs with the DOEE staff regarding using the July 2020 dataset for the VIN data analysis.

The conference call ended at 11:30 am.