

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
January 10, 2012 10:00 to 12:00
Teleconference

Present:

Monica Backmon, Prince William County
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Jessica Daniels, District Department of the Environment
Stan Edwards, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment
Andrew Gayne, Marine Base Quantico (in person)
Jason Groth, Charles County
Barbara Hardy, Fairfax County Department of Health
Jeff Harn, Arlington County Department of Environmental Services
Julius Holmes, City of Alexandria
Brian Hug, Maryland Department of the Environment
Mike Lake, Fairfax County Department of Transportation
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Jon Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Ana Prados, Fairfax County Federation of Citizen's Associations
Howard Simons, Maryland Department of Transportation
Kanti Srikanth, Virginia Department of Transportation
Khoa Tran, City of Alexandria
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation

Others Present:

Mike Kiss, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Chuck Turner, Maryland Department of the Environment
Jennifer Haines, Maryland Department of the Environment

Staff:

Bill Bacon, COG/DTP
Anant Choudhary, COG/DTP
Elena Constantine, COG/DTP
Eulalie Lucas, COG/DTP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Jane Posey, COG/DTP
Joan Rohlf, COG/DEP

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary

Chairman Ballou called the meeting to order at 10:02. There were no comments on or corrections to the previous meeting summary.

2. PM2.5 Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan: Update

COG staff provided an update on the status PM2.5 redesignation request and maintenance plan development for the 1997 PM2.5 NAAQS. Preliminary mobile emissions inventories for 2002 and 2007 using MOVES were presented and discussed. Members asked that the graphical presentation of emissions projections not be shared with MWAQC at this time. MOVES results for 2017 and 2025 are still pending.

Jim Ponticello said he wants to be able to review 2030 and 2040 emission levels to compare to a potential 2025 motor vehicle emission budget (MVEB).

A new contingency trigger was added. Contingency measures would be triggered if area emissions exceed 2007 levels. Area emissions will only need to be examined whenever EPA requires an updated PEI, and would include all four source sectors. Doris noted that EPA policy is that inter-pollutant trading is not allowed.

3. TPB Conformity Scope of Work for 2012

Jane Posey discussed the proposed scope of work for TPB's conformity analysis in 2012. She reviewed Table 1, and listed the similarities and differences from the 2012 CLRP conformity analysis. This year's analysis will include the use of the Version 2.3 travel demand model and the Mobile6.2 emissions model with adherence to the same mobile budgets as last time. New inputs include updated (Round 8.1) Cooperative Forecast data and new (2011) VIN data. She also mentioned that transit fare updates and toll changes will be included in the analysis. She stated that analysis years are: 2007, 2017, 2020, 2030, and 2040. She reviewed the schedule on page 7, and noted that the public comment period begins on January 12 and ends on February 11. She also noted that the current schedule calls for completion of the analysis and adoption by the TPB in July.

4. Near Road Monitoring

Dave Krask and Jennifer Hains, MDE, and Chuck Turner, VDEQ, discussed results from a 5-city near-road monitoring pilot program in which Baltimore participated, and implementation plans for near road monitoring in the metropolitan Washington region. EPA and NACAA have developed the Build and Hold plan. Monitors to be deployed over 2013 and 2014. Section 103 funding to cover establishment costs such as planning, construction, permits, shelters, monitors, etc. Near-road network critical aspect of NAAQS revision since level was chosen to represent peak exposure locations. EPA recently finalized revisions to CO monitoring requirements as part of NAAQS review. Near-road CO monitors will be required at NO2 sites. Virginia anticipates relocating the CO monitor at our Alexandria site to a site near I-395. The Maryland monitor will be located near the rest stop on I-95. Other sites evaluated in Maryland (7 in total), such as the Toll Plaza/Ft McHenry, had very high levels of NO2, but were perhaps significantly influenced by nearby industrial and commercial emission sources. Sites are chosen based on predicted area of highest concentration. Some consideration is also given for fleet equivalent AADT and proximity to population density.

5. Status of Ozone Planning: OTC Modeling Scenarios

Tom Ballou discussed results of OTC attainment modeling scenarios and implications for the region's attaining the 2008 ozone standard. He also presented information on projected inventories as well as anticipated designation schedule for the 2008 standard. OTC ran modeling for a number of scenarios, information on Scenario 4 as well as 2 sensitivities were discussed. Scenario 4 attempts to capture the

OTB/OTW measures and involves significant predicted emissions from EGUs and on-road mobile sources. For Scenario 4, all of the monitors in the metropolitan DC region would have predicted design value concentrations below 70 ppb. Tom noted that regional emissions are currently forecast to be higher than the Scenario 4 emission levels modeled. Information on the projected emission inventory indicates the importance of address NOx emissions from mobile sources. By 2020, on-road mobile sources could represent more than 50 percent of the contribution of NOx emissions. EPA is anticipated to designate the Washington, DC/MD/VA as marginal, which would involve the anticipation of the region attaining the standard in 2015. The SIP would not require an attainment modeling demonstration. Mike Kiss said that DEQ has upgraded its modeling capabilities so will be able to run additional sensitivity analyses to support air quality planning efforts.

6. Recent EPA Regulatory Update

Jeff King discussed recent court actions affecting CSAPR and EPA regulations that will lead to reduced emissions of mercury and other toxic gases from power plants. The EPA mercury and air toxics rule has been in the works for nearly two decades. This final EPA action will produce dramatic reductions in air pollutants and will provide significant health benefits. In the mid-Atlantic region, PJM staff report that while there are some concerns about potential grid reliability impacts associated with potential closure of coal-fired power plants, generally their analysis shows that the grid can be managed adequately under the anticipated closure scenarios with only limited concern about reliability. Courts have placed a temporary stay on EPA's Cross State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR). The court has established a very quick timeline to hear the case, so it is possible the issues will resolved fairly quickly. CAIR remains in effect until the court decision.

7. Other Business

Jon Kinsman, Andrew Gayne, Walt Seedlock, and Ana Prados were all reappointed as stakeholder members of the MWAQC TAC.

Jeff King announced that Jason Groth from COG's newest member, Charles County, participated in today's meeting.

8. State and Local Updates

Jessica Daniels reported that the DC VOC regulations have been finalized and are now in effect.

9. Set Date for Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, Adjourn

Next TAC Meeting: Thursday February 16, 2012 (note change in date)