

**MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee**  
**1-Page Summary of Policy-Relevant Issues May 12 Meeting**

Key policy-relevant issues discussed at the May 12 meeting are summarized below.

1. National Initiatives to Address Greenhouse Gases

- In response to a 2007 Supreme Court ruling, EPA recently proposed an “Endangerment Finding” for greenhouse gases. The EPA Administrator proposed that greenhouse gases threaten the public health and welfare of current and future generations. EPA also proposed a “Cause or Contribute Finding” that the emissions from new motor vehicles and motor vehicle engines contribute to the atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases and hence to the threat of climate change.
- The House of Representatives is considering national legislation to address climate change. The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 contains several different proposals, including a national cap and trade program as well as a number of new clean transportation and clean energy initiatives.
- Members did not support sending an MWAQC comment letter on the proposed endangerment finding, but agreed that the version of the letter agreed to on the call would be more acceptable given the overall concerns expressed. The MWAQC Executive Committee will consider the letter on May 13.

2. Transition to MOVES Model

- EPA’s new MOVES (Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator) model is designed to estimate both on-road & non-road emissions. The draft 2009 version of MOVES cannot yet be used for SIPs and conformity. EPA is seeking feedback/input on the draft model.
- There is a need for interagency coordination to address the transition to the new model. In the near term, staff coordination, and continued reports at the TPB Travel Management Subcommittee (TMS) and MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee will suffice. Staff plan to develop comparative emission estimates using the new model by the end of June.

3. Report on the Recent OTC/LADCO Meeting

- A meeting between OTC and LADCO states was held at BWI airport on April 27/28. Modeling work performed by LADCO shows that the LADCO/OTR region would achieve the current ozone standard with new tougher controls on EGUs, but that the controls would not be sufficient to bring the region into attainment with the new lower 75 ppb standard. The group agreed to continue with efforts to push EPA for tougher EGU controls. Other areas of focus include controls on large boilers and new mobile source controls.

4. Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) Funding

- MWCOC submitted a proposal for diesel projects using ARRA funding through DERA. COG, as an eligible entity, agreed to work with project partners to bundle projects so that the total grant request was higher than the \$1 million minimum. A proposal was developed and submitted to EPA for consideration. The total grant request was \$3.8 million. EPA can selectively fund individual projects within the bundle. Project partners included WMATA, DC WASA, and Fairfax, Montgomery, and Prince William County. Private partners included a number of construction firms located in the region. If awarded, all project work must be completed by September 2010.

5. Energy Efficiency Outreach Coordination Meeting

- Recent climate action plans developed in the region call for outreach and education campaigns. COG invited many of the key players for a meeting on April 28 to discuss regional collaboration on messaging, timing, funding, etc. The meeting was well attended by state energy offices, public service commissions, utilities, and local government energy managers. Each organization was given the opportunity to discuss their plans and programs for energy and climate outreach and education. Attendees expressed desire for continued coordination and collaboration. A follow-up meeting will be scheduled for July.

6. Other Business

- The 2009 ALA State of the Air Report was recently released. The report indicates that the region’s air quality is improving, but ozone and PM pollution is still a concern.
- Members are currently being appointed for COG’s new Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC). The first meeting may be held in late June.
- COG staff are actively developing Clean Cities proposals for the recent federal stimulus program. Proposals for CNG vehicle purchases and vehicle electrification infrastructure are being developed. The key contacts are Leah Boggs and George Nichols.

#### 7. State and Local Air Agency Report

- The Virginia State Air Pollution Control Board met on April 24. The motion to initiate regulations to respond to MWAQC's opacity petition failed again on a tie vote. The Air Board did agree to extend the OTC VOC regulations into the Richmond area as a maintenance strategy.
- The District recently announced its Green DC agenda including a sustainability plan.
- EPA recently proposed disapproval of the Baltimore and Cecil County ozone SIPs.
- Joan Rohlf's said that Fairfax County approved continued funding of the air quality monitoring program in the county.

#### Upcoming Meetings:

MWAQC Executive Committee May 13

AQPAC May 18

TPB May 20

MWAQC May 27