

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

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MEETING NOTICE

Date: July 23, 2008

Time: 12:00 pm– 2:00 pm

**Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol St., NE, 3rd Floor, Board Room
Washington, D.C. 20002**

**Lunch will be available for members at 11:30 a.m.*

AGENDA

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- 12:00 1. Call to Order; Public Comment Period, Approval of Minutes, Introduction of New Members, Chair’s Remarks,**
- 12:05 2. Committee Reports**
- A. Report of the Technical Advisory Committee**
 - B. Report of the Air Quality Public Advisory Committee**
 - C. Report of the Clean Air Partners**
- 12:20 3. Federal Court Decision on Clean Air Interstate Rule**
- 12:30 4. New Ozone Standard: Strategies to Meet the New Standard**
- 12:45 5. City of Alexandria/Mirant Settlement**
- 1:10 6. Comment Letters:**
- Opacity Standard**
 - MWAQC Comment Letter on Conformity Assessment**
- 1:20 7. Ozone Season Update**
- 1:30 8. Climate Change Report: Overview**
- 1:50 9. Prince George’s County Clean Air Initiative**
- 2:00 10. State and Local Air Agency Reports**
- 2:05 11. Date for Next Meeting and Adjourn**
Next Meeting: September 24, 12 pm – 2 pm



Reasonable accommodations are provided for persons with disabilities. Please allow 7 business days to process requests. Phone: 202.962.3300 or 202-962.3213 (TDD). Email: accommodations@mwacog.org. For details: www.mwacog.org.

Item: 1. Public Comment, Approval of Minutes, Announcements, Chairman's Report

Presenter: Hon. David Snyder, MWAQC Chair

Description:

After the public comment period, Chair will call for approval of Meeting Summary for May 28, 2008, and for amendments to the agenda.

Recommended Action:

Approve minutes

Item: 2. Committee Reports

- **Report of the Technical Advisory Committee**
Diane Franks, Chair
- **Report of the Air Quality Public Advisory Committee**
Deron Lovaas, Vice Chair
- **Report of the Clean Air Partners**
Harriet West, Chair

Item 3. Federal Court Decision on Clean Air Interstate Rule

Presenter: Joan Rohlfs, Chief, Air Quality Planning

Description:

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit vacated the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) on July 11. EPA promulgated the rule in 2005 to reduce power plant emissions of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides. The CAIR rule was adopted in various forms by Virginia, Maryland and the District and is used in the 2008 PM2.5 State Implementation Plan (SIP). EPA has 90 days to appeal the decision.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

Summary

Item: 4 New Ozone Standard: Strategies to Meet the New Standard

Presenter: Mike Dowd, Air Division Director, Virginia DEQ

Description:

EPA revised the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone in early 2008. Although EPA will not designate areas of nonattainment for two years, the states are beginning to develop strategies to meet the new standard. Mike Dowd will discuss the results of the Ozone Transport Commission's Annual Meeting in early June.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

Power point presentation

Item 5. City of Alexandria/Mirant Settlement

**Presenter: Hon. Redella “Del” Pepper, City of Alexandria
William Skrabak, Dept. of Transportation and Environment
City of Alexandria**

Description:

On Tuesday, July 1, the Alexandria City Council approved a settlement agreement between the City and Mirant regarding its Potomac River Generating Station (PRGS). The approval followed a unanimous recommendation from the City’s Mirant Community Monitoring Group, which met on June 30 to review the potential settlement and recommended that the City approve the terms of the settlement agreement. The settlement document and additional information can be viewed at alexandriava.gov.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

Handout

Item 6. Comment Letters:

- **MWAQC Comment Letter on Conformity Assessment**
- **Opacity Standard**

Presenter: Jeff King, MWCOG DEP

Description:

In June the TPB released its conformity analysis for the new Transportation Improvement Program. Comments were due to TPB by July 16. On July 9 the MWAQC Executive Committee approved a comment letter to TPB. The letter was sent on July 9.

As a condition for approval of the PM2.5 SIP, the City of Alexandria and the Virginia Dept. of Environmental Quality agreed that a letter will be drafted and sent by MWAQC to the Commonwealth of Virginia Air Pollution Control Board asking that action be initiated to tighten Virginia's standards from the existing 20% for opacity to 10%. Mr. King will present the draft letter.

Recommended Action:

Vote to approve Letter on Opacity Standard

Materials:

Letter to TPB commenting on Conformity Assessment
Letter on Virginia Opacity Standard

Item 7. 2008 Ozone Season Update

Presenter: Jen Desimone, MWCOG DEP

Description:

Staff will discuss the 2008 ozone season thus far and compare the number of Code Orange and Code Red days experienced this year under the new ozone standard to the old 1997 ozone standard.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

Powerpoint presentation

Item 8. Climate Change Report: Overview

Presenter: Hon. Nancy Floreen, Chair, Climate Change Steering Committee

Description:

On July 9 the COG Board of Directors released for public comment the National Capital Climate Change Report. The Climate Change Steering Committee chaired by Ms. Floreen developed the report and its many recommendations. Ms. Floreen will present an overview of the report and invite comments. Comments can be made online at the website below.

Recommended Action:

Briefing, comments

Materials:

National Capital Region Climate Change Report is available at:
www.mwcog.org/environment/climate/public

Item 9. Prince George's County Clean Air Initiative

Presenter: Didian Tsongwain, Prince George's County Dept. of Environmental Resources

Description:

Last year Prince George's County has adopted an Air Quality Outreach Strategic Plan that involves a survey of county employees' actions on Code Orange and Code Red days and developing messages and programs to reduce emissions on those days in the future. Mr. Tswongwain will discuss results of the survey, focus groups and how the results will be used to develop the program.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

Powerpoint presentation