

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
1-Page Summary of Policy-Relevant Issues February 10, 2006

Key policy-relevant issues discussed at the February 10 meeting are summarized below.

Proposed PM NAAQS

- EPA has proposed to lower the 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard to 35µg/m³ from the current level of 65 µg/m³. Based on a review of monitoring data from 2002-2004, the DC region would be in nonattainment of the new lower standard.
- EPA has proposed a new standard to cover PM between the range of 2.5 to 10 microns. The annual standard would be set at 70 µg/m³. There are no monitoring data covering this range of pollutants at this time.
- TAC members will meet to discuss a possible MWAQC comment letter.

Mobile Emissions Inventory

- The draft TPB conformity work scope for the 2006 CLRP and 2007-2012 TIP was released for public comment. The TAC Conformity Subcommittee will meet to discuss a potential comment letter.
- The Emissions Inventory Subcommittee will meet to review sensitivity analysis on seasonal versus monthly approaches to modeling annual mobile emissions inventories.
- Mobile emissions inventories need to be finalized before April 2006.

Control Measures Development

- The control measures workgroup is currently evaluating Reasonably Available Control Measures (RACM) for the 8-hour ozone SIP.
- The workgroup has developed a set of criteria used to determine whether a measure is considered RACM. A measure can be considered RACM if it can be implemented by May 1, 2008, would advance the attainment date by one year, is technically and economically feasible, produces emissions reductions greater than 0.1 tpd, and will not cause substantial adverse impacts. Cost effectiveness is defined as less than \$3,500-\$5,000/ton.
- Preliminary results of the RACM analysis should be available in March.

Non-road Equipment Inventory Survey

- Under federal law, CMAQ funds may now be used for non-road equipment retrofits.
- COG is hiring a consultant to conduct a survey of non-road transportation construction equipment inventories in the DC region. The RFP is available on the COG website.

Subcommittee Structure

- The MWAQC Executive Committee approved the recommended rotation policy for TAC subcommittees.
- A new subcommittee was created for 2006: Local Government Initiatives Subcommittee. Mary Richmond, Montgomery County, will chair the new subcommittee.

State and Local Air Agency Report

- Diane Franks reported that Tad Aburn has been appointed as the new Air Director for MDE. MDE has proposed amendments to the Healthy Air Act, currently being considered by the Maryland legislature. MDE is also tracking other relevant legislation such as renewing provisions for tax credits for hybrid vehicle purchases. MDE has also been working closely with the OTC to develop control strategies across a broader region including the midwest Regional Planning Organization (RPO).
- Stan Tracey reported that the District is working on NSR and CAIR implementation regulations.
- Jim Sydnor reported that the Virginia General Assembly is considering proposed legislation that will affect the mercury regulatory proposals recently considered by the Air Pollution Control Board. The Virginia CAIR regulation will be out for public comment in the coming months.

Upcoming Events

- AQPAC. February 13
- RACM Calls. February 16 and 23
- TPB. February 15
- OTC Special Meeting of the Commissioners. February 22
- MWAQC. February 22.
- Mid-Atlantic Diesel Collaborative Kick-off Meeting. February 28
- Special TAC meeting in March scheduled from 10am - 2pm.