



Item #5

# EPA Regulatory Update

MWAQC

February 22, 2012

# Overview of Recent Developments

- Mercury and Air Toxics Rule for Power Plants
- Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR)
- Ozone Implementation Rule I
- New PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS Pending



# Mercury and Air Toxics Rule

- Final Rule - Establishes emission limits for mercury, dioxins, PM, acid gases
- Responsive to Consent Decree to finalize rule by December 16, 2011
- Under development for ~20 years.
- Sources Covered: Power Plants that burn coal or oil
- Grid Impact/Reliability Concerns
  - Shutdown of coal-fired power plants
  - PJM analysis shows only limited concerns for the metropolitan Washington region.



# Ozone Implementation – Proposed Rule

- Implications for DC metro region - Proposed Rule establishes that areas designated as “Nonattainment” that are classified as “Marginal” must meet NAAQS by 2015.
- Likely EPA Designations for the 2008 Ozone NAAQS for the Washington, DC/MD/VA Region
  - Nonattainment
    - Classified as Marginal
- No SIP required? – only Emission Inventory
  - Not required: Motor Vehicle Emission Budgets (MVEBs), Attainment Demonstration Modeling, Reasonable Further Progress (RFP)
  - Presume to Attain by 2015



# Cross-State Air Pollution Rule

- CSAPR Final Rule July 6, 2011.
- Replaces the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR).
- Significantly improve air quality by reducing power plant emissions that contribute to ozone and/or fine particle pollution in other states.
- December 30, 2011 – US Court of Appeals – Ruling to stay the CSAPR pending judicial review. Case to be heard by March 16, 2012. CAIR remains in effect.
- To track developments, see:
  - <http://www.epa.gov/crossstaterule/bulletins.html>



# PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS

- 2006 PM<sub>2.5</sub> Annual Standard – 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- EPA 5-year NAAQS Review Process
  - Anticipated to lower annual standard
    - Range from 11-13 ug/m<sup>3</sup> possible
    - Policy Assessment Recommends 11-12 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
    - Retain the 35 daily µg/m<sup>3</sup> standard
  - Decision possible in July 2012



# Questions

- Contact:

Jeff King

202-962-3238

[jking@mwcog.org](mailto:jking@mwcog.org)

