

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
1-Page Summary of Policy-Relevant Issues
March 11, 2005

Key policy-relevant issues discussed at the March 11 TAC meeting are summarized below.

Ozone Season Forecast and Greenbelt Monitor

- The long range forecast models indicate that there is a 50/50 chance that this summer will be warmer than average.
- The new Beltsville monitoring site that was discussed at TAC in 2004 is now up and running.
- This new state-of-the art site replaces the Greenbelt monitoring station, which had a long history of technical problems. The site will now house some of the equipment moved from the Fort Meade site that was phased out because of homeland security concerns.
- The Airwatch.net website has been updated. New items include haze cams and a transport “watch box.”

Control Measures

- A new Master List of control measures for the 8-hour ozone standard was discussed. The list attempts to be inclusive of all potential control options.
- TAC is seeking suggestions for additions to the Master List.
- A shorter list of “priority measures” is also being developed. Detailed emission reduction and cost information is being compiled for the measures on the short list. This information will be discussed at the next MWAQC meeting.

Emissions Inventory

- The inventory development work is moving ahead steadily. The 2002 base year emission inventory is now being finalized by the states.

Attainment Modeling

- The attainment modeling task is moving ahead on schedule.
- Virginia DEQ will lead the attainment modeling effort for the Washington, DC-MD-VA ozone nonattainment area. Maryland and the University of Maryland will also assist with the modeling.

Other issues

- EPA announced the release of the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR). The rule will require reductions of NO_x and SO₂ starting in 2009.
- TAC stakeholder appointments will be announced in the next few weeks. The new stakeholder participants will be introduced at the April 8, 2005 TAC meeting.