

**MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**September 10, 10 AM to 11:15 AM**

**Present:**

Anna Marshall, Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
Catherine Salarano, Maryland Department of the Environment  
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation  
Gwendoline McCrea, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Emily Bull, Maryland Department of the Environment  
Felip Ip, City of Alexandria  
Jennifer Roelke, Maryland Department of the Environment  
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation  
Malcolm Watson, Fairfax County Department of Transportation  
Marcia Ways, Maryland Department of the Environment  
Melissa Atwood, City of Alexandria  
Namita Verma, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Randy Mosier, Maryland Department of the Environment  
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Thatch Gerike, District Department of Energy & Environment  
Thomas Foster, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Virginia Burke, Maryland Department of Transportation

**Staff:**

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP  
Alissa Boggs, COG/DEP  
Jane Posey, COG/DTP  
Jeff King, COG/DEP  
Jen Desimone, COG/DEP  
Jinchul Park, COG/DTP  
Leah Boggs, COG/DEP  
Robert Christopher, COG/DEP  
Robert dAbadie, COG/DTP  
Tim Masters, COGDEP  
Wanda Owens, COG/DTP

**1. Call to Order, Review of Meeting Summary, and Summary of Public Comments Received**

Tom Ballou chaired the meeting in absence of Roher Thunell. He called the meeting to order at 10 AM. The July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting summary was approved without any changes.

Tom discussed comments and questions sent by a member of the public on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. One of the things that was brought up was the ACPAC letter. That letter is under review. One other comment was about the EJ subcommittee. COG staff will provide an update on that in this meeting.

**2. Ozone Season Summary**

Sunil discussed the 2023 ozone season data as of August. There were seven exceedances (code orange) for the 2015 ozone standard. There was no exceedance for the PM2.5 standard. The official EPA's ozone design value is above the standard (71 ppb), but since EPA granted the District's request for a waiver for the June 29, 2023 data affected by wildfires, that value has now come down to 70 ppb (below standard). PM2.5 based yellow days are higher compared to last year as the standard was tightened recently.

### **3. 2015 Ozone NAAQS RR/MP Schedule, Questions to EPA, and RR/MP Requirements**

Sunil Kumar discussed the draft schedule for the 2015 ozone NAAQS Redesignation Request & Maintenance Plan. He also discussed a list of questions that will be sent to EPA regarding various requirements that need to be met before the plan could be submitted, the selection of different milestone years, and the need to update base year 2017 onroad and nonroad inventories.

Jim ponticello asked if we need to wait until EPA publishes the final rule for the exceptional events waiver. Tom said that the final rule is required to formalize EPA's action granting waiver for the June 29, 2023 ozone data for McMillan. Doris said that the clean data determination and the waiver actions are likely to be published at the same time (February/March 2025).

Doris was concerned that the schedule goes into 2027, which could be a problem for selecting 2038 as the final maintenance year. Therefore, she wanted to condense the schedule. Sunil said that would depend on EPA's response to our questions. If they agree with everything, we are proposing in the list of questions, then we will likely complete the plan development and submittal work by 2026. He also suggested the MWAQC Executive Committee approving the plan document before MWAC December meeting to expedite the submittal. He asked Jane Posey if the onroad emissions development schedule could be completed early. Jane said that TPB can start early so that could be accomplished even though she was not sure if the onroad schedule can be condensed.

### **4. State/Local Updates**

There were no updates.