

Memorandum

October 25, 2006

TO: Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC)

FROM: MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Local Government Initiatives Subcommittee

Subject: Proposed Local Voluntary Bundle for the 8-hour Ozone SIP

The MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) recommends adoption of several measures to be included as a "voluntary bundle" in the 8-hour ozone SIP for the Washington, DC region. EPA's voluntary measures policy establishes criteria under which emission reductions from voluntary programs are creditable in a SIP. This policy permits states to partner with local jurisdictions to implement emission-reducing programs at the local level. The memorandum includes the process used to develop the recommendations; a list of each of the proposed measures, including estimates of emission reduction benefits, and how the measure will be included (credited or weight of evidence) in the SIP.

Process

The Local Government Initiatives Subcommittee developed recommendations for the voluntary bundle using information provided by local jurisdictions. In September, local governments provided data on implementation of the measures, including implementation date, cost, etc. Staff developed summary proposal of proposed measures, including emission benefits. In October, MWAQC TAC approved recommending 10 measures for inclusion in the voluntary bundle. The list of proposed non-regulatory measures includes:

- Wind Energy Purchases
- Diesel Retrofits
- Low Emission Vehicles
- Low-VOC Paints
- LED Traffic Signal Retrofits
- Energy Performance Contracting
- Solvent Parts Washer Replacement
- Urban Heat Island Mitigation
- Green Buildings
- Episodic Programs

The measures are described in Attachment 1. Additional details on the survey responses for each participating jurisdiction are provided in Attachment 2.

Benefits

Emission reduction benefits for local measures can be credited in the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for attainment or Reasonable Further Progress (RFP) purposes, or the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) for conformity purposes. Measures that are not creditable can be included in the SIP as weight of evidence. Attachments 1 and 2 provide additional information on emission reduction benefits. The total SIP credit for the proposed local measures is 0.355 NO_x and 0.004 VOC.

Next Steps

- MWAQC Approval in October.
- Brief COG Board in November.
- Commitment letters from the local jurisdictions to be provided to States by the end of the year.