

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
December 11, 2018, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Present:

Cecily Beall, District Department of Energy & Environment
Joseph Jakuta, District Department of Energy & Environment
Ram Tangirala, District Department of Energy & Environment
Alexandra Catena, District Department of Energy & Environment
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Alex Brun, Maryland Department of the Environment
Mohamed Khan, Maryland Department of the Environment
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Colleen Turner, Maryland Department of Transportation
Regina Moore, Virginia Department of Transportation
John Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute
Matt Krupp, WMATA
Leal Boyd, Navy Mid-Atlantic

Staff:

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Jen Desimone, COG/DEP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Tim Masters, COG/DEP
Amanda Campbell, COG/DEP
Jane Posey, COG/DTP
Jinchul Park, COG/DTP
Erin Morrow, COG/DTP

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary

Cecily Beall called the meeting to order at 10 am. The November 13th meeting summary was approved with a change to correct the date for the last meeting.

2. Final 2015 Ozone NAAQS Implementation Rule

Sunil Kumar presented the summary of the final 2015 ozone NAAQS implementation rule, which was published on December 6, 2018. The rule provides final rules and guidelines for planning to meet the 2015 ozone NAAQS. It does not revoke the 2008 ozone NAAQS and establish anti-backsliding requirements, which EPA will take up in a separate rulemaking. The rule requires a comprehensive emissions inventory for the base year, transportation conformity demonstration (using MVEBs found adequate by EPA from 2008 ozone NAAQS maintenance plan), periodic emission inventory updates (NEI), major source emission statements, RACT determination (Required for OTR states irrespective of NA class), and the new source review (NSR) program for marginal nonattainment areas. The base year emissions inventory, emission statement, and RACT SIP submissions are due August 3, 2020 (2 years from effective date of designation). The attainment date is August 3, 2021 (3 years from the effective date of designation) and will be evaluated based on the 2018-2020 design value. The Clean Air Act section 181(a)(5) allows up to two 1-year extensions of attainment dates based on certain criteria. The rule also discusses US background ozone, multi-pollutant

planning, land-use planning, and travel efficiency measures as part of the planning process for the 2015 ozone NAAQS.

Ram asked if ozone season day inventories also need to be submitted in addition to the annual inventories required as currently only the annual inventories are required as part of the NEI process. Sunil said COG staff would inform members after the meeting on this issue after looking into it.

3. Update on Base Year Emissions Inventory

Sunil Kumar discussed the information received from EPA regarding the milestone year for the base year, time periods of emissions inventories, and a draft list of pollutants for the base year emissions inventory submittal as part of the 2015 ozone NAAQS implementation rule.

EPA staff in their calls with state air agencies pointed to 2017 and 2018 as possible candidates for the base year based on the 2015 ozone NAAQS implementation rule. States are working on submitting emissions inventories for the year 2017 as part of the NEI submittal process. Therefore, developing emission inventories for 2017 will be much easier in light of the availability of input data from the NEI process. The year 2018 does not seem to be a good candidate as data would not be available until at least the middle of 2019, which would delay the schedule for the inventory submittal.

EPA staff also said that the final 2015 implementation rule requires VOC and NO_x to be submitted for an average ozone season work week day for the base year emissions inventory submittal. The CO base year emission inventory will be required at the time of the 2015 ozone NAAQS redesignation request and maintenance plan. However, in the past, EPA also required additional pollutants to be submitted on an annual basis for VOC, NO_x, CO, PM_{2.5}-Pri, SO₂, and NH₃. State air agencies said that they would ask EPA to clarify on the need for submitting annual inventories for the 2015 ozone NAAQS.

Sunil also talked about a preliminary schedule for the base year inventory development and submittal.

Cecily Beall asked how members should get all the base year requirements in writing from EPA. Doris said we should ask EPA to do so during the monthly calls with state air agencies. There was a question on the use of 2017 VIN data for developing the base year emission inventory submittal, which will also be used in the related maintenance plan, when needed. Jane Posey said TPB was not planning to develop the 2017 VIN data due to time and resource issues. Doris suggested contacting EPA about the use of 2017 or 2016 VIN data.

4. Briefing on “What We Can Do” Webinar

Sunil briefed members on a webinar held on December 4th to discuss one of the anti-idling measures suggested in the June 21st workshop of the WWCD work-group. The measure suggested was to reduce idling and the associated NO_x emission from the refrigerated food trucks delivering food at grocery stores in the Washington region. A Walmart representative was invited to talk about the company’s initiatives on employing different technologies to reduce NO_x emission at the company’s distribution centers and grocery stores while loading and unloading refrigerated food.

Steve Walz asked about the authority to regulate grocers. Sunil said it depends on the jurisdiction. It may be easier for local governments to go with the financial incentive route for implementing this measure for grocers instead of the regulatory route. Sunil said some more information is awaited from the Walmart representative on the cost/benefits of this measure,

which will be shared with local governments.

5. MWAQC Strategic Assessment Survey

Jen Desimone briefed members on the survey sent to MWAQC, MWAQC-TAC, and ACPAC regarding the strategic assessment. She said that the results of the survey is not quite complete yet. She informed members that a total of 29 response has been received till date, a 25% response rate. The survey has three main sections. The first section asks information about the organization competing the survey. The second section has questions about MWAQC operations. A few comments were received, which urged the need to provide meeting materials at least a week in advance. Also, a few comments highlighted the need to have more sub-committee meetings to build consensus on important issues. The third section has questions related to priorities for MWAQC, such as, What We Can Do webinar, etc. Based on the comments received as of now, there is no clarity on this issue. However, this will be discussed in the December meeting of MWAQC. Jen mentioned that in order to provide more time for providing meeting materials for MWAQC-TAC, state air coordination calls will have to be rescheduled.

6. Announcement of 2019 MWAQC-TAC Stakeholders

Cecily Beall announced the re-appointments of John Kinsman, Leal Boyd, and Matt Krupp as stakeholders for MWAQC-TAC for 2019.

7. State & Local Updates

Virginia – Tom Ballou informed the group that the Virginia Air Pollution Control Board meeting has been postponed to December 19th due to snow.

District – Joseph Jakuta said that the District submitted to EPA the corrected emission statement for the 2008 ozone NAAQS. The District will also finalize the RACT.

Maryland – Alex Brun said she did not have any updates at this time.

8. Adjourn

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.