

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

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TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: October 12, 2010

Time: 10:00 am to 11:00 am

TELECONFERENCE

Call In Number 888-898-8635

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DRAFT Agenda

- 10:00 1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary (September 14, 2010)**
Chairman Cecily Beall, District Department of Environment
- 10:10 2. Conformity for the 2010 CLRP and 2011-2016 TIP**
Jane Posey, COG/DTP, will present the draft conformity report for the 2010 CLRP and 2011-2106 TIP. Members will discuss preparation of a comment letter to TPB.
- 10:40 3. Air Quality Trends Report, 1993- 2009**
- 10:50 4. Other Business**
- 10:55 5. State and Local Air Agency Reports**
- 11:00 6. Set Date for Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, Adjourn, Next TAC Meeting: November 9, 2010**



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**MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
September 14, 2010 12:30 to 2pm
COG Board Room**

Present:

Elizabeth Aiken, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Monica Backmon, Prince William County
Cecily Beall, District Department of Environment
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Austina Casey, District Department of Transportation
Bhesh Dhamala, Fairfax County
Jessica Daniels, District Department of Environment
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment
Andrew Gayne, Marine Base Quantico
Barbara Hardy, Fairfax County
Brian Hug, Maryland Department of the Environment
Jon Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute (by teleconference)
Bob Owolabi, Fairfax County Department of Transportation
Pam Parker, Montgomery County Department of Environment
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Ana Prados, Fairfax County Federation of Citizen's Associations
Walt Seedlock, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority
Howard Simons, Maryland Department of Transportation
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation

Staff:

Jeff King, COG/DEP
Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Eulalie Lucas, COG/DTP
Jane Posey, COG/DEP
Joan Rohlf, COG/DEP
Daivamani Sivasailam, COG/DTP

Other Participants:

Charley Baummer, MWAA
Mike Clifford, Consultant
Julie Van Fleet, ACPAC

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary (July 13, 2010)

Ms. Beall called the meeting to order at 10:10. The minutes of the July 13 meeting were approved with no changes. Note that the minutes of the July meeting should have reflected approval of the May meeting summary, not the July meeting as indicated.

2. Ozone Season Summary

Sunil Kumar provided the ozone season summary. There have been 33 ozone exceedance days, including three code red days. The pollution episode in early July involved stagnant conditions, extremely high temperatures, and recirculation of pollution. The highest levels were on July 7 at the McMillan monitor (8-hour ozone at 100 ppb), with a total of 13 monitors exceeding that day. A weeklong episode occurred from August 28th to September 3rd and included one code red day, August 30th. This episode involved a longstanding high pressure system that eliminated clouds and allowed for recirculation of pollution. Even though there were ozone exceedances this year, air quality is still improving as indicated by the fact that there are fewer exceedance days even when temperatures exceed 90 degrees.

2. EPA Proposed Transport Rule

Jeff King presented information on EPA's recently proposed Transport Rule. EPA has proposed a rulemaking (the Transport Rule) to resolve issues with the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) that was remanded by the courts to EPA for reconsideration. The proposal would require significant reductions in sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) emissions that cross state lines. By 2014, the rule and other state and EPA actions would reduce power plant SO₂ emissions by 71 percent over 2005 levels. Power plant NO_x emissions would drop by 52 percent. The rule will set state level budgets and will limit interstate trading of allowances. TAC will consider a draft comment letter in September. The proposal does not consider the new lower ozone NAAQS so EPA is proposing to evaluate what state budgets would be needed for the regions to meet the new NAAQSs as part of a Transport Rule amendment.

Members reviewed a draft comment letter for action by MWAQC in September. The letter was approved with a few changes to the 4th paragraph, specifically adding language about the need for EPA to develop an approach to achieve emission reductions from other sectors either through the Transport Rule or other rulemaking. Jon Kinsman said it's possible that there will be more litigation if EPA does not allow emission allowance trading.

3. Transition to MOVES Model for SIPs and Conformity: Schedule

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP, will discuss the schedule for transitioning to the MOVES model. The MOVES Task Force has mostly completed the inputs required to run the model. The task force is currently working to decide the key issue of emissions development methodology using the MOVES model recently released by EPA. In the next few months, the task force is expected to complete a preliminary analysis on conformity runs using MOVES and the activity data from the new CLRP and TIP, which will give the group a better understanding of whether there may be issues with demonstrating conformity once the grace period ends in March 2012. If issues related to demonstrating conformity after the grace period are identified, it will be important to determine the best course of action to resolve in a timely manner. Staff are reconsidering earlier discussions about whether to use the MOVES model to generate total emissions, or just to produce emission rates. According to Mike Clifford, the current process used by TPB to model VMT has much more precision than would be enabled by the MOVES model (1 mph vs. 5 mph

speed increments). Even though run times with the emission rate approach are much longer, DTP staff are suggesting it may be important to keep the emission rate approach available as an option.

5. Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) Model Rules

Jeff King discussed development of new model rules by the Ozone Transport Commission. On September 16, the OTC will be holding stakeholder meetings to discuss new proposed model rules under development. The model rules focus on stationary generators, high electricity demand days, lightering controls, nonroad idling regulations, and low solvent degreasers.

6. Climate and Energy Progress Reporting

Jeff King discussed efforts to establish a data sharing agreement with area utilities and a proposed format for reporting progress on the regional climate and energy initiatives. Staff convened meetings of the Energy Managers in the region to develop a proposal for an annual data request to area utilities for data needed to help the region track progress in meeting its energy and climate goals. COG staff worked with representatives from area utilities to formalize the request. Utilities are in the process of developing the data response for 2009 and intend to provide the reports in the first quarter of each year moving forward. Staff has also developed a new outline for the format of the progress report presentation due to CEEPC in the second quarter of 2011.

7. Energy Outreach Campaign

Joan Rohlfs discussed COG's development of an energy outreach campaign for the region. COG has launched a new energy outreach campaign. The campaign includes: a website - with energy saving tips and access to a platform that allows people who sign up to monitor their energy use online in connection with their utility accounts; a reward program offered by sponsors based on how much energy participants save; and a friendly competition between individuals and communities for the most energy savings. Three communities have been selected to participate in the pilot phase from October 2010 to March 2011: Brookland, DC, Greenbelt, MD and the Cascades neighborhood in Loudoun County, VA. The goal is to recruit at least 50 participants in each community. Free energy conservation kits will be available for the first 50 participants that sign up and claim a kit in each neighborhood. The website is www.wecansaveenergy.org.

8. Other Business

- Impact of EPA's Proposed NSR Anti-Backsliding Provisions. EPA has recently proposed a rule an approach to assure that air quality improvements under EPA's National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for 1-hour ground-level ozone are retained as areas work to meet the more health protective 8-hour ozone standards set in 1997. In our region, this proposal will primarily affect Virginia which rolled back its NSR thresholds from the severe levels when the region was designated as a moderate nonattainment area.

- Update on Conformity Analysis. There has been a one month delay in this year's conformity analysis. Draft results will be made available in October, TPB action is expected in November.

- Smart Growth Technical Assistance Award. In the coming months, COG will get technical assistance from EPA and consultants to work on smart growth and adaptation to climate change in the Washington region. The project includes: conducting a risk assessment study to evaluate

the potential impacts of climate on the region, and providing recommendations to better adapt to climate change at the local and regional level. A strong focus will be to identify synergies between the smart growth principles, and regional capacity to adapt to climate change. This project was selected by EPA in August as part as their Smart Growth Implementation Program.

- Jim Ponticello provided comments submitted by VDOT to EPA about the proposed restructuring of the Conformity Rule. Brian Hug expressed concern that EPA may not have properly notified state air agency staff about this proposal.

9. State and Local Air Agency Reports

Tom Ballou reported for Virginia. The Standard Operating Permit for the Mirant Potomac River Generating Station was finalized. The revised permit would establish an Ozone Season NOx cap in line with the submitted ozone SIP. The regional haze SIP is open for public comment. Development of the Old Dominion proposed power plant in Surry County has been postponed due to decreased electricity demand and regulatory uncertainty. VDEQ is processing a permit for the 1200 MW natural gas power plant in Warren County. There will be a public meeting in October.

Cecily Beall reported for the District. DDOE is handling public comments received on the proposed OTC VOC rules. Public hearings/comments are also being received or solicited on the Regional Haze SIP and the Climate Change Plan.

Diane Franks reported for Maryland. The Advisory Council held a meeting and nearly all of the CTG requirements have been finalized. Staff are reviewing the Transport Rule for potential comments. Next month there will be discussion of regulation of curtailment service providers. The Climate Change Commission may meet in October. The Annual Update is due to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1.

10. Set Date for Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, Adjourn, Next TAC Meeting: October 12, 2010