

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary (Draft)
February 11, 2014
10:20 AM to 12:40 PM

Present:

Ram Tangirala, District Department of the Environment
Jessica Daniels, District Department of the Environment
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Tad Aburn, Maryland Department of the Environment
Brian Hug, Maryland Department of the Environment
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment
Molly Berger, Maryland Department of the Environment
Lyn Erickson, Maryland Department of Transportation
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Austina Casey, District Department of Transportation
Barbara Hardy, Fairfax County Health Department
Gwen Kennedy, Loudoun County
Mike Lake, Fairfax County DOT
Malcom Watson, Fairfax County
Khoa Tran, City of Alexandria
Walter Seedlock, MWAA
Monica Backmon, Prince William County
Caroline Petty

Staff:

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Jennifer Desimone, COG/DEP
Stuart Freudberg, COG/DEP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Leah Boggs, COG/DEP
Elena Constantine, COG/DTP
Jane Posey, COG/DTP
Eulalie Lucas, COG/DTP
Andrew Austin, COG/DTP

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary

Chair Tad Aburn called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM. The January 7, 2014 meeting summary was approved without any changes.

2. Base Year 2011 Emission Inventory (2008 Ozone Standard)

Sunil Kumar discussed in detail the base year 2011 emissions inventory, which will be submitted to EPA by July 20, 2014. He specifically discussed the methodologies and input data used for developing emissions for point, area, nonroad, and onroad sources. He described the pollutants and time periods for developing these emissions. Sunil also discussed contributions of the four major emission sources above

to total emissions for VOC, NO_x, CO, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, and NH₃. He informed the members regarding providing any comments on the emissions inventory document by February 18th.

MWAQC-TAC approved the emissions inventory document for MWAQC's review and approval. MWAQC is scheduled to review and approve the emissions inventory document in its February 26th meeting for public comments.

3. EPA's Proposed Greenhouse Gas Rule for Power Plants

Sunil Kumar briefed the members on EPA's proposed greenhouse gas rule for new power plants and its plan to propose a rule for the existing power plants by the next year. Under the proposal, any new plant that runs on coal would be permitted to emit only about half as much carbon dioxide as an average coal plant puts into the air today. While the proposed rule for new power plants will be directly enforced by EPA, the proposed rule for existing power plants will be enforced by states. Therefore, states will have choices in meeting the standards. States will be encouraged to use renewable energy sources (wind, etc.) and could reduce electricity demand by employing energy efficiency measures. Since the new coal based power plants will have to incur additional costs to limit carbon dioxide output or develop new methods of cleansing emissions, the industry is likely to challenge it in court. While a few industries such as, natural gas sector are expected to support the rule, coal fired power plants will likely oppose it.

Barbara Hardy asked if any state is sending comments on the rule. Tad said MDE is planning to send a comment letter to EPA and can share the letter with MWAQC.

4. MWAQC Work Program & Budget

Jen Desimone discussed the proposed work program and budget for FY2015. Doris McLeod said she would provide a few comments on the work program. Tom Ballou said he would like to get the comments from COG staff that were received after Joan Rohlf's presented the work program in the budget committee. Elena Constantine informed the group that the TPB funding is contingent on approval of the Unified Planning Work Program for FY 2015. The amount of funding will be confirmed in September 2014.

5. Performance Analysis of 2013 Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan (CLRP)

Andrew Austin (COG/DTP) presented a report on the performance analysis of the 2013 Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan (CLRP). Important findings of the above analysis are:

- The share of daily and commute travel by single drivers is expected to decrease in favor of other modes, especially in the outer suburbs.
- The share of commute travel by carpool is forecast to grow.
- The share of both daily and commute travel by transit is not expected to increase through 2040.
- The share of total daily travel by walking and biking is forecast to increase.
- Overall AM peak highway congestion is expected to increase substantially between now and 2040.

Tad said MDE has concerns with the increase in NO_x emission in 2040 as shown in slide 20. Also, he said that the current transportation conformity budgets shown in slide 20 represent the old ozone standard (84 ppb) and not the current ozone standard (75 ppb). Since mobile emissions are below the current conformity budgets (applicable to 84 ppb standard), it gives an impression that the region is also fine with the current 75 ppb standard, which is not the case. Doris said the slide 20 reflects what is required to meet transportation conformity regulations and therefore she does not see any issue with that slide. Stuart suggested including a note on that slide to reflect the fact that it refers to the 84 ppb standard. Tad said that he hopes the increasing trend in CO₂ emission shown in slide 21 would be reversed. Tom and Ram

suggested including updates on future transportation plans and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) as agenda items for future TAC meetings.

6. MDE/DDOE Special Project

Jessica Daniels (DDOE) presented details of the Special Project (funded by MDE and staff support from DDOE and COG). NOx emission goals were developed for onroad mobile source for 2015 and 2020 to address current and future ozone standards respectively. These goals were developed based on a number of modeling studies performed by the Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) and EPA. CO2 emission goals were developed for the onroad mobile source for 2020, 2030, 2040, and 2050 to address various greenhouse gas goals outlined in climate change reports of COG, District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, and other local governments in the region.

The committee discussed these goals in detail. Doris and Jim Ponticello felt that it was difficult to find necessary mobile source control measures to achieve the outlined emissions reductions in the relatively short time periods discussed in the project. Doris also said that the issue of CO2 emission reduction should be discussed as part of CEEPC. Mike Kiss said NOx emission limits mentioned in the project is based on draft OTC modeling and not the final modeling. Tad said it is the best available modeling results at this time.

In response to Lyn Erickson's question, Tad said he wants to present the special project to MWAQC and TPB and continue the project in FY2015MWAQC work plan and budget. Tom suggested discussing the project in transportation conformity sub-committee meetings as it relates to mobile emissions. Doris supported the idea as she felt TAC is already resource constrained.

7. Updates

a. Gold Book

Jeff King briefed the members on the status of the Gold Book (list of regional control measures), which is being developed by the MWAQC staff. He said once the draft is completed, it will be circulated to the group and also presented to MWAQC.

b. Revised 2014 CLRP Schedule

Jane Posey presented the revised schedule for the 2014 CLRP analysis.

c. TPB-Tech Meeting

Sunil said he did have anything other than the revised 2014 CLRP schedule to report from the TPB-Tech meeting on February 7. Jane already presented the revised schedule.

8. State and Local Updates

Ram said that the District of Columbia did not have anything to report. Diane Franks said Maryland is working on new regulations for power plants controls during peak ozone days. Tad said Maryland is planning to use some money from its Stage II program to develop infrastructure for electric vehicle charging. Maryland is also collecting data on diesel generators for developing new regulations. Tom said that Virginia's Stage II SIP is up for public comments.

The meeting ended at 12:40 pm.