

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

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TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: April 8, 2008

Time: 10 am to 12 pm

Teleconference

Number: 1-888-898-8635

Passcode: 774715

DRAFT Agenda

- 10:00 1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary (February 21, 2008)**
Chairman Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment
- 10:10 2. Revised National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for Ozone**
Joan Rohlfs, COG DEP, will discuss EPA's recent action on the ozone NAAQS.
- 10:25 3. DTP Request for Vehicle Registration Data**
Mike Clifford, COG DTP, will discuss the need for updated vehicle registration data for mobile emissions analysis.
- 10:40 4. EPA Region III Request for Proposal for Diesel Projects**
Bill Jones, EPA Region III, will discuss an EPA Request for Proposals for Diesel Projects.
- 10:55 5. DOE Grant for EERE Measurement and Verification Protocols**
Jeff King, COG DEP, will provide an update on COG's work under a U.S. DOE grant to develop M&V protocols for the metropolitan Washington region.
- 11:15 6. Climate Change Steering Committee and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Workgroup**
Joan Rohlfs, COG DEP, will provide an update on the Climate Change Steering Committee.
- 11:30 7. Other Business**
- 11:40 8. State and Local Air Agency Report**
- 11:50 9. Set Date for Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, Adjourn**
Next TAC Meeting: May 13, 2008



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**MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
February 21, 2008 10am to 12pm
Rooms 4/5**

Present:

Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Monica Backmon, Prince William County
Cecily Beall, District Department of the Environment
Randy Carroll, Maryland Department of Environment
Bhesh Dhamala, Fairfax County Department of Health
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of Environment
Candice Gay, Department of Defense REC Region III
Jeff Harn, Arlington County
Maurice Keys, District Department of Transportation
John Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute (by teleconference)
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Bob Owolabi, Fairfax County Department of Transportation
Pam Parker, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection
Walt Seedlock, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority
Bill Skrabak, City of Alexandria
Howard Simons, Maryland Department of Transportation (by teleconference)
Kanti Srikanth, Virginia Department of Transportation
Khoa Tran, City of Alexandria
Didian Tsongwain, Prince George's County Department of Environmental Services
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Flint Webb, Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

Staff:

Mike Clifford, COG/DTP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Erin Morrow, COG/DTP
Joan Rohlfs, COG/DEP
Daivamani Sivasailam, COG/DTP (by teleconference)

Observers/Participants:

Charley Baummer, MWAA
Julie Crenshaw Van Fleet, AQPAC
Maureen Barrett, City of Alexandria
Lalit Sharma, City of Alexandria
Dennis Hlinka, Sullivan Environmental

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary (January 8, 2008). Ms. Franks called the meeting to order at 10:10. She introduced new stakeholder members Candice Gay and Walt Seedlock and said that Flint Webb and John Kinsman were reappointed. The minutes of the January 8, 2008 meeting were approved with no changes.

2. Comment Response for the PM_{2.5} SIP and 3. PM_{2.5} SIP (ACTION)

Jeff King and Sunil Kumar reviewed comments and proposed responses to comments, as well as technical corrections and other changes made to the draft PM_{2.5} SIP. At Virginia's request, PM_{2.5} emissions from open burning were revised. The SIP was also revised to address both the 1997 annual and 24-hour PM_{2.5} NAAQS. Sunil Kumar provided a list of other editorial changes made to the SIP based on public comments.

Jeff King summarized the major categories of comments. There were a total of 39 comments from 14 commenters. Categories of comments included general SIP comments, as well as comments on control measures, attainment modeling, and local hotspots. He provided a table summarizing all of the comments received and the proposed responses to comments. Additional detailed responses developed by Virginia DEQ to satisfy administrative requirements will also be included in the SIP appendix.

Bill Skrabak expressed concern that the SIP was not revised to address the comment that the SIP include text stating that MWAQC and the states believe that the NAAQS is set too high and should be lowered per the recommendations of CASAC. He said that concern was a primary reason that MWAQC decided to prepare an attainment SIP instead of a redesignation request. Kanti Srikanth, Tom Ballou, Diane Franks, and Doris McLeod said that the purpose of the SIP is to demonstrate compliance with the 1997 standards and that there are other avenues to address the concern that the NAAQS may be set too high. Bill Skrabak asked staff to review the MWAQC minutes to determine the importance of the NAAQS issue in forming the basis of MWAQC's decision to proceed with the attainment SIP.

Bill Skrabak disagreed with the response that the use of trona does not increase PM. Consensus was not reached as to whether test data are conclusive on this issue, therefore, members agreed to delete the second half of the response in the summary table. Doris McLeod said that the detailed Virginia DEQ response would maintain the language.

Bill Skrabak urged members to support an agreement that the SIP include a requirement that the opacity standard in Virginia be lowered from its current level of 20%. Maryland and the District confirmed their current opacity standards are lower than Virginia. Tom Ballou and Doris McLeod said that such a request should be brought to the Virginia Air Pollution Control Board. Bill Skrabak said that the comment should be addressed in the SIP because it is a RACM/RACT issue. Doris McLeod said that RACT/RACM are not necessary in the SIP at this time because the FRM monitors in the region are showing attainment of the PM_{2.5} standards. Bill Skrabak agreed but said that the SIP should include the requirement so that air quality is improved. Julie Crenshaw Van Fleet recommended that MWAQC not try to solve the issue of Virginia's opacity regulation. She recommended that the issue be addressed through a letter to Virginia DEQ or a request to the Air Board. Doris McLeod said that if the Mirant Potomac River Generating Station is subject to an NSR review, the permit could be revised to lower the permissible opacity levels.

Bill Skrabak said he disputes the assertion that the region is currently meeting the 1997 PM2.5 NAAQS. He said that the resolution of the modeling is insufficient to identify the hotspot that he believes exists in the City of Alexandria due to the emissions from the Mirant Potomac River Generating Station.

Members then discussed the special meeting that was held on February 20, 2008 to address the issues surrounding the potential hotspot situation in Alexandria. Tom Ballou said that the meeting was a technical meeting with a significant number of stakeholder, DEQ, and EPA officials. He said that Dave Snyder and Julie Crenshaw Van Fleet attended as stakeholder; COG staff attended as observers. Jeff Harn said that Arlington County should be considered a stakeholder, had expressed interest in attending the meeting, but was not invited. Diane Franks asked if there was a resolution reached at the meeting. Joan Rohlf's summarized key outcomes. First, Virginia DEQ expressed support for locating an FRM monitor in the city. Second, a Virginia PM implementation workgroup has been formed to address the issue of handling local PM2.5 hotspot situations. DEQ's position remains that the most appropriate way to address the situation is to include in the SIP a requirement for the Mirant facility that goes into effect once an appropriate methodology is finalized. Bill Skrabak said that he supports a requirement that modeling be conducted, but will not be satisfied if there is no definitive timeline. After discussing several options, Doris McLeod agreed to revise the text in the Local Area Analysis section to include a requirement that within 60 days of approval of a methodology by the Air Board, DEQ will require Mirant to submit a detailed protocol for conducting the analysis. Virginia DEQ would also make the protocol available to the public. In response to a question from Howard Simons, Diane Franks said that if Mirant failed to follow through on the requirement, EPA could take an enforcement action, and there would likely be no negative implications for the overall SIP or transportation conformity. With the exception of the City of Alexandria, all agreed to the change. Bill Skrabak said that the city does not support the decision because the timeline remains too open ended.

In response to a question from Flint Webb, Charley Baummer said that he is satisfied with the response to the comment from MWAA that emissions from GSE be identified in the SIP.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the SIP for recommendation to MWAQC, including the revised response to comments and any related and agreed-to changes in the SIP. The City of Alexandria voted no. Arlington County abstained. All other members voted in favor of the motion.

4. Conformity Scope of Work

Mike Clifford presented the scope of work for the Conformity Determination for the 2008 CLRP and 2009-2014 TIP, which was approved by the TPB on February 19, 2008. There were no comments received on the draft scope. The plan includes demonstrating conformity using both the interim and proposed new motor vehicle emission budgets. Cooperative Forecasts Round 7.1 will be used. In response to a question from Doris McLeod, Mike Clifford said that emissions will be analyzed for both 2009 and 2010. In response to a question from Flint Webb, Mike Clifford said that ammonia will not be analyzed because it was not found by the state air agencies to be a significant precursor for SIP controls.

Mike Clifford said that he will be seeking the assistance of the states soon to obtain updated vehicle registration data for use in estimating mobile emissions.

5. MWAQC FY 09 Work Program and Budget (proposed)

Joan Rohlf's presented the proposed MWAQC work program and budget, which was finalized after meetings of the MWAQC budget committee held in December and January. Funding for the core work program remains unchanged from last fiscal year. There is a proposed increase in funding for the local programs in the work program. The scope also includes a new focus on multipollutant strategies, including evaluating measures for controlling ozone, PM2.5, and greenhouse gases. The proposed work program and budget were approved for recommendation to MWAQC with no objections.

6. Climate Change Steering Committee and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Workgroup

Joan Rohlf's provided an update on the Climate Change Steering Committee, which will meet in February to adopt regional goals. The key points to decide are whether to have a regional goal, what percentage reduction is appropriate and for which years, and who should the goal apply to. Staff will likely propose a short term goal (2012 or 2015), an interim goal for 2020, and an aspirational goal for 2050. At the meeting in February the CCSC will also discuss potential recommendations for the climate report due in April and will review documentation of best practices.

Flint Webb said he will share information on an AWMA conference in early April that will include focus on the climate change regulatory puzzle. Joe Lieberman will be the keynote speaker.

7. Other Business

There was no other business.

8. State and Local Air Agency Report

Tom Ballou and Doris McLeod reported for Virginia. Governor Kaine issued Executive Order 59 which establishes a climate change commission for Virginia. The first meeting was held on February 1. The OTC Phase II VOC regulations will go to the Air Board in March. Virginia is working on amendments to the conformity regulations and on issues related to CAA Section 112(g). Virginia expects some scrubbers to come on-line in 2008 for early reduction credits.

Cecily Beall reported for the District. Public hearings are being held for the infrastructure SIP on March 31. Public comments have been received for the OTC VOC regulations. The District is also working on the conformity regulations.

Bill Skrabak said that the Air Board will hold a hearing on March 20 on the stack merger permit for the Mirant plant in Alexandria.

Diane Franks reported for Maryland. MDE is still working on the infrastructure SIP. Maryland had to resubmit the Conformity SIP. All three OTC Phase II VOC rules have been adopted.

9. Set Date for Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, Adjourn: The next TAC Meeting will be held on April 8, 2008.