

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

Suite 300, 777 North Capitol Street, N.E. , Washington, D.C. 20002-4290 202-962-3358 Fax: 202-962-3203

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: June 10, 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 (May 13, 2008)**
Chairman Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment
- 10:10 2. Ozone Season Summary**
Sunil Kumar, COG DEP, will present the ozone season summary.
- 10:20 3. PM Implementation Workgroup and EPA Guidance**
Tom Ballou, VDEQ, and Raj Rao, EPA, will discuss PM2.5 Implementation Issues, including the recent PM NSR rule and the Virginia PM implementation workgroup.
- 10:35 4. Comment Letter on Opacity Standards in Virginia**
Jeff King, COG DEP, will present a draft MWAQC comment letter requesting that the Air Board act to lower Virginia's opacity standard for stationary sources.
- 10:50 5. Power Plant Ash Disposal in Maryland**
Brian Hug, MDE, will discuss issues related to disposal of ash from coal-fired power plants in Maryland.
- 11:05 6. Climate Change Steering Committee: Status of Report**
Joan Rohlf, COG DEP, will provide a status report on the draft COG climate change report.
- 11:15 7. Overview of EPA Emission Inventory Conference**
Sunil Kumar, COG DEP, will discuss the recent EPA Emission Inventory Conference
- 11:25 8. COG Ethanol Forum**
Leah Boggs, COG DEP, will discuss the recent ethanol forum hosted by COG.
- 11:40 9. Other Business**
- 11:45 10. State and Local Air Agency Report**
- 11:55 11. Set Date for Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, Adjourn**
Next TAC Meeting: July 8, 2008



Reasonable accommodations are provided for persons with disabilities. Please allow 7 business days to process requests. Phone: 202.962.3300 or 202-962.3213 (TDD). Email: accommodations@mwqoc.org. For details: www.mwqoc.org.

DRAFT

**MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
May 13, 2008 10am to 12pm
Teleconference**

Present:

Monica Backmon, Prince William County
Cecily Beall, District Department of the Environment
Randy Carroll, Maryland Department of Environment
Jessica Daniels, District Department of Environment
Bhesh Dhamala, Fairfax County Department of Health
Candice Gay Hall, Department of Defense REC Region III
Michelle Farver, District Department of Environment
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of Environment
Barbara Hardy, Fairfax County Department of Health
Jeff Harn, Arlington County Department of Environmental Services
Brian Hug, Maryland Department of Environment
Maurice Keys, District Department of Transportation
John Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
William Marsh, Loudoun County Department of Building and Development
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Bob Owolabi, Fairfax County Department of Transportation
Pam Parker, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Walt Seedlock, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority
Howard Simons, Maryland Department of Transportation
Bill Skrabak, Alexandria Department of Environmental Quality
Khoa Tran, Alexandria Department of Environmental Quality
Didian Tsongwain, Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Flint Webb, Fairfax Federation of Citizens Association

Staff:

Mike Clifford, COG/DTP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Eulalie Lucas, COG/DTP
Erin Morrow, COG/DTP
Joan Rohlf, COG/DEP
Daivamani Sivasailam, COG/DTP

Observers/Participants:

Charley Baummer, MWAA
Bill Butler, Mirant
Julie Crenshaw Van Fleet, AQPAC
Edgar Gonzalez, Montgomery County
Colin High, Resource Systems Group, Inc.

Debra Jacobson, George Washington University Law School
Tim Lavalee, Consultant
Lauren Pederson, ICF International
Sebastian Silvani, Booz Allen Hamilton

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary (April 8, 2008). Ms. Franks called the meeting to order at 10:05. The minutes of the April 8, 2008 meeting were approved with no substantive changes. Flint Webb asked that the spelling of CAFE standards be corrected (no accent).

2. State of the Air Report

Joan Rohlfis discussed the recent American Lung Association (ALA) State of the Air Report released on May 1. Compared to other areas of the United States, the metropolitan Washington region was ranked 9th in terms of ozone pollution and 10th for particle pollution. The District and Fairfax County were noted as the locations with the poorest air quality in the region. The report did recognize that there have been fewer days of high particle pollution. COG staff prepared points for use by MWAQC executives to respond to press inquiries. The report was covered by the Washington Post, which also recognized that the region is making progress but can do better.

EPA has proposed a new lower lead NAAQS. Based on the most recent data available from monitoring (from the 1990s), the region is most likely in compliance with the new proposed NAAQS. States are in the process of determining how to respond to the requirements given there are no recent or current lead monitoring data available to support an attainment designation recommendation. States are also concerned that EPA is not providing funds to assist the states to comply with the possible new monitoring requirements.

EPA has also proposed in the Federal Register on April 28, 2008 that the Washington, DC-MD-VA region has officially attained the 1-hour ozone standard. The proposal also notes that Section 185 fees are therefore no longer required.

3. Start of the Ozone Season

Sunil Kumar discussed the start of the 2008 ozone season. Air quality forecasts are issued from May 1 through September 30 for both 8-hour ozone and fine particles. For the next day forecast the lead pollutant, AQI value, and color are provided. For day two and three, only the AQI color and lead pollutant are provided. The forecasts for ozone will be based on the new AQI reflecting the new 8-hour ozone standard of 75 ppb. During the weekdays, the forecast call will occur at 2:30pm and the consensus forecast will be posted on EPA airnow website by 3:15 pm. Health alerts will be sent out for forecast code red days.

There were two ozone exceedance days on April 18 and 19 at the Prince George's Equestrian Center and Southern Maryland monitors.

John Kinsman said that MWAQC should consider a press release about the new AQI. He said that use of the new AQI could cause public confusion because it will appear as if air quality is getting worse simply because of the change in the AQI cutpoints. Joan Rohlfis said that staff have been conducting outreach with the region's broadcast meteorologists.

Diane Franks said that some stakeholders have expressed concerns about the new AQI because some regulations in Maryland require action on code orange/red days.

4. Protocols for Estimating the Air Quality and Climate Benefits of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Jeff King provided an update on recommendations for protocols for estimating the benefits of EERE in the Washington region. In April, staff recommended EERE programs for protocol development, including building retrofits, purchase of energy efficient appliances, and renewable portfolio standards. The current focus of the project is to review the available measurement and verification protocols and develop a recommended protocol design concept. Currently, it is envisioned that the protocol would be based on the EPA National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency Impact Evaluation Guide, with the International Performance Measurement and Verification Protocol (IPMVP) as the core M&V component. The protocol will be intended for use primarily to support inclusion of state and local EERE projects in air quality SIPs, and to document the benefits of measures adopted to meet regional greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. It is not intended to be used by utilities or the state to satisfy PUC regulatory requirements associated with implementing EERE or demand response programs using public benefits charges, or for compliance with PJM requirements for participating in RPM or Future Capacity Markets, though could serve as a starting point for such needs.

5. Virginia PM Implementation Workgroup: Update

Doris McLeod provided an update on the Virginia PM Implementation Workgroup. The group met in early May and will meet again before June. Members agreed to focus on issues not covered by EPA's recent NSR permitting rule. She provided a link to an ftp site containing the workgroup materials, including meeting summaries and supporting documents. Julie Crenshaw Van Fleet said that the meeting generated many questions and that there were many competing interests. Bill Skrabak said that the NSR rule left unanswered the question of how to address condensibles, which EPA must resolve by January 1, 2011.

6. Conformity Update

Mike Clifford discussed recent actions of the TPB related to air quality conformity. Staff are working on the conformity assessment for the 2008 CLRP and 2009-2014 TIP. Network and travel demand modeling have been completed for 2009, 2010, 2020, and 2030. Emissions are completed for 2009 and 2010. Given recent concerns about NVTC funding of projects in Northern Virginia, a contingency plan has been developed that would involve specific actions to remove projects that increase capacity in Northern Virginia. Resolution may not be available until July which could push the final conformity determination into the Fall. In response to questions from Flint Webb, Mike Clifford said that both the Dulles Rail project and BRAC are in the plan.

Mike Clifford said that the updated registration data analyzed with a VIN decoder won't be used until the next conformity cycle. He said the Household Travel Survey is being conducted now, and results won't be ready for review by technical committees until January 2009. Conformity for the 2010 CLRP would likely reflect the results of the Household Travel Survey.

7. Climate Change Steering Committee and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Workgroup

Joan Rohlf provided an update on the Climate Change Steering Committee. The CCSC will meet on May 28 to review the draft report with recommendations. In addition to establishing regional reduction targets, the report will include recommendation on energy, transportation, land use, outreach/education, and finance, as well as the future organizational structure of the COG climate program. She provided a table showing all of the proposed recommendations for the report.

Mike Clifford presented a memorandum with information on the CO₂ emission reduction potential and cost effectiveness of each of the projects on the TERM tracking sheet. TERMS were grouped into categories and ranges of cost effectiveness were provided. Telecommute programs were the most cost effective, followed by bicycle/pedestrian and rideshare assistance programs. The CAL LEV program was not analyzed. CAFE Standards help to reduce the growth in emissions, but do not result in an overall decline. Analysis suggests that fleet average fuel economy would need to be 55 miles per gallon to achieve the proposed CCSC reduction goals if fuel economy was the only mobile sector strategy employed. The analysis will be reviewed by the TPB Travel Management Subcommittee.

8. Bus Replacements: Potential for Clean Buses

Members discussed issues related to the relative environmental performance of different transit bus purchase options. Edgar Gonzalez said that Montgomery County is replacing 81 buses and was asked by the County Council to consider the relative greenhouse gas performance of replacement options. Hybrid buses are significantly more expensive than clean diesel buses but get better gas mileage. Clean diesel buses at 2.9 mpg cost approximately \$337,000 while hybrids at 4 mpg cost about \$500,000. Staff calculated the CO₂ abatement cost effectiveness of hybrids to be approximately \$4,221/ton, which is high compared to the \$50/ton threshold frequently cited from the McKinsey report. Mr. Gonzalez said he may propose to purchase 42 clean diesel and 39 hybrids in FY08-09.

Sebastian Silvani said that environmental performance can depend on duty cycle. Clean diesel perform better for applications such as long haul trucking. Hybrids are better in city stop and go conditions. CNG has lower carbon content but also lower energy content so more fuel needs to be burned. Mr. Silvani said he is willing to share an analysis/test data he has developed for WMATA to help inform the discussion of transit bus replacement. Members supported the idea of a special meeting to discuss the issue further.

Flint Webb offered to share an analysis conducted for APTA on the carbon reduction potential for transit.

9. Other Business

Julie Crenshaw Van Fleet asked that the next TAC agenda include an item on fly ash disposal. Diane Franks agreed to add such an item to the agenda.

Doris McLeod asked Maryland and the District about plans to address the EPA requirements for addressing the 2006 CTGs. Diane Franks said that the OTC states are discussing options, especially considering the OTC rules may already include some of the provisions. Cecily Beall said staff need to compare the new requirements to the current OTB regulations.

10. State and Local Air Agency Report

Cecily Beall reported for the District. The DC Council passed CAL LEV II and is currently considering the CAIR rule. Staff are still working on the PM infrastructure SIP and the OTC VOC rules.

Doris McLeod reported for Virginia. The OTC VOC rules will be considered by the Air Board in June. The Air Board will also consider the Wise County Power Plant. The PM Infrastructure SIP has been released for public comment. Virginia is providing funding to Alexandria and Arlington for bus retrofits.

Diane Franks reported for Maryland. Maryland has initiated rulemaking on Distributed Generation. Legislation passed to increase permit fees. All the OTC rules have been finalized and adopted. Public hearings are being held for the Baltimore and Washington County PM SIPs. The PM Infrastructure SIP was submitted to EPA.

Bill Skrabak said that the City met with Virginia DEQ, Mirant, and representatives of the Air Board and agreed to continue discussing the issue of the Mirant Potomac River Generating Station. He confirmed that the City will be retrofitting buses using funds provided by Virginia DEQ from enforcement actions against Virginia Power.

11. Set Date for Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:45am. The next TAC Meeting will be held on June 10, 2008.