

**MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
December 6, 2011 10:00 to 12:00
Training Center, 1st Floor**

Present:

Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Kelly Baty, Loudon County*
Calvin Cam, Fairfax County Department of Transportation*
Randall Carroll, Maryland Department of the Environment
Jessica Daniels, District Department of the Environment
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment
Andrew Gayne, Marine Base Quantico
Brian Hug, Maryland Department of the Environment
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Arthur Marin, NESCAUM*
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Ram Tangirala, District Department of the Environment
Khoa Tran, City of Alexandria
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation

Staff:

Anant Choudhary, COG/DTP
Elena Constantine, COG/DTP
Kyle Hosley, COG/DEP Intern
Eulalie Lucas, COG/DTP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Joan Rohlfs, COG/DEP

* denotes attended by teleconference

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary

Chairwoman Diane Franks called the meeting to order at 10:15. There were no comments on or corrections to the previous meeting summary.

2. PM_{2.5} Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan: Update and Action

Joan Rohlf's presented updated information on the PM_{2.5} Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan. History of the PM_{2.5} standards and DVs was presented along with definitions of a Redesignation Request and a Maintenance Plan. The presentation contains evidence needed to show that the Washington DC Metropolitan Area has been in attainment and will continue to reduce PM_{2.5} levels. A lengthy discussion ensued once the committee was presented with a choice to leave behind the 2002 inventories from the PM_{2.5} SIP or to submit an entirely new 2002 inventory. The point was made that it would be easier to leave the 2002 inventory, but a technical correction memo to EPA may be needed. No objections were made to leaving the 2002 inventories with EPA when the rest of the PM_{2.5} SIP is withdrawn. The Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan have been split into two different documents. This was done since the Redesignation Request is not a formal SIP document, whereas the Maintenance Plan is a formal SIP submittal. The desired timing of submission of the withdrawal letter submission was determined to be January or February of 2012. Emissions triggers were another topic of discussion, resulting in the stance that there needs to be such a trigger. COG and air agency staff will develop language to add that addresses this requirement. The meeting concluded with approval to proceed with withdrawal of the PM_{2.5} SIP at the appropriate and coordinated time, and to recommend preparation and submittal of a Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan.

3. Status of Ozone Planning: OTC Modeling Scenarios

This planned item of the meeting was cut out in order to accommodate the lengthy discussions that arose from the discussions regarding the Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan.

4. Low Sulfur Fuel ("Tier 3")

Arthur Marin, from NESCAUM, gave a presentation regarding the benefits in air quality if Tier 3, the low sulfur gasoline program, is adopted by the EPA. Tier 3 would also include tailpipe standards for NO_x, VOCs, and PM. The standard for the amount of sulfur in gasoline would be lowered to 10ppm. This would result in an almost instantaneous and significant reduction of NO_x emissions (high sulfur content reduces the ability of a catalytic converter to remove NO_x emissions from the exhaust). The reduction in harmful emissions would lead to a lower number of hospital visits, accidents, and acid rain reports. Onroad mobile sources (automobiles) make up a large percentage of NO_x emissions in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast, so cleaner fuels with fewer harmful emissions would greatly help in cutting total NO_x emissions as well.

5. PM_{2.5} Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan: A Status Report on the development of the On-Road Mobile Emissions Inventories

Elena Constantine updated the committee on the status of the on-road mobile emissions inventory (MOVES). Inventories for 2002 were completed and ready for submittal to Sunil, but the inventories for 2007 were not complete as of the meeting date (December 6, 2011), but should be ready for submittal by December 16, 2011. One reason for the inventories not being completed sooner is that the 2.3 model was adopted as the official model on November 16, 2011.

Email correspondence with EPA regarding fuel formulation lead to feedback on inputs. The sensitivity analysis has presentations available for key variables in the emissions inventory.

6. State and Local Updates

Virginia has no formal updates, but did inform the committee that they were looking into the new SO₂ standard and that they had ozone data up to 2010 and found out 2 jurisdictions that were in nonattainment before had a design value which would have put the jurisdictions into attainment. Maryland had no formal updates, but also had looked at 2010 data and found they also have jurisdictions which would meet the attainment requirements. DC had no formal updates.

7. Set Date for Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, Adjourn

The next Technical Advisory Committee meeting will be held January 10, 2011. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30.