

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

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MEETING NOTICE

Date: September 28, 2005

Time: 12:00 p.m.– 2:00 p.m.

COG Board Room, 3rd Floor
MWCOG, 777 N. Capitol St., NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

*Lunch will be provided at 11:30 pm for members and official alternates

AGENDA

- 12:00 1. Call to Order; Public Comment Period**
- 12:10 2. Approval of Minutes, Announcements, Chairman's Report**
- 12:20 3. Fine Particle Amendment to FY 06 MWAQC Work Program (ACTION ITEM)**
- 12:30 4. Potomac River Power Plant: Status Report**
- 1:00 5. SIP Development Update**
- 1:15 6. New Transportation Bill (SAFTEA-LU) and Changes Affecting Air Quality Planning**
- 1:25 7. 8-Hour Ozone and PM Conformity Update**
- 1:35 8. Committee Reports**
 - A. Report of the Technical Advisory Committee**
 - B. Report of the Air Quality Public Advisory Committee**
 - C. Report of the Clean Air Partners**
 - D. Report of the Interstate Air Quality Council (IAQC)**
- 1:45 9. State Air Agencies' Report**
- 1:50 10. 2005 Ozone Season Summary**
- 2:00 11. Date for Next Meeting and Adjourn**

Item: 2. Approval of Minutes, Announcements, Chairman's Report

Presenter: Hon. T. Dana Kauffman, MWAQC Chair

Description:

Chair will call for approval of Meeting Summary for July 27, 2005, and for amendments to the agenda.

Recommended Action:

Approve minutes

**Item: 3. Fine Particle Amendment to FY 06 MWAQC Work Program
(ACTION ITEM)**

Presenter: Joan Rohlfs, Chief, Air Quality Planning

Description:

EPA designated the Metropolitan Washington Region as nonattainment for the fine particulate standard, PM_{2.5}, in January 2005. The States of Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia must submit PM_{2.5} SIPs by April 2008.

As the approved MWAQC Work Program for 2005-FY 2006 covers planning for the 8-hour ozone standard and not for the fine particle standard, an amendment is proposed to address the need for PM_{2.5} planning. The proposed amendment would add three planning tasks to the approved Work Program.

Recommended Action:

Vote on Amendment

Materials:

Item 4: Potomac River Power Plant: Status Report

**Presenter: John Daniel, Director, Air Quality, Virginia DEQ
Mike Dowd, Attorney, Virginia Dept. Environmental Quality
Steve Arabia, Mirant Corporation**

Description:

On August 22, Mirant Corporation shut down the Potomac River Power Plant in response to VDEQ concerns raised by a down-wash study, an environmental computer modeling study of air quality in the immediate area around the Potomac River facility. The modeling results showed exceedances of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards ((NAAQS) for sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and particulate matter under worst-case scenarios. The plant has been operating since 1948.

Representatives of Virginia Dept. of Environmental Quality will give the regulatory background and Mirant representatives will discuss the status of the plant. Representatives of Pepco, PJM and the District Public Utilities Commission will be present to answer questions.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Item 5. SIP Development Update

Presenter: Joan Rohlfs, Chief, Air Quality Planning

Description:

Ms. Rohlfs will report on the SIP development to date: the status of control measure development, modeling analysis, inventory development and conformity analysis for the 8-hour ozone standard. As of mid-September, EPA has not released the second phase of guidance for 8-hour ozone SIPs. The Technical Advisory Committee and work groups continue to work on potential control measures and other inputs to the SIP.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Item 6. New Transportation Act (SAFETEA-LU) and Changes Affecting Air Quality Planning

Presenter: Ron Kirby, Director, Dept. of Transportation Planning

Description:

On August 10, 2005, the President signed the Safe, Accountable Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act- A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) reauthorizing TEA-21, the six-year surface transportation act which expired September 30, 2003. The Act authorizes transportation programs for 2005-2009, including transit, highway, safety and research programs. The timing of transportation conformity for plans is one change affecting air quality. Also the list of eligible programs for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funding has been expanded.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Item 7. 8-Hour Ozone and PM Conformity Update

Presenter: Mike Clifford, Dept. of Transportation Planning

Description:

DTP Staff will review the draft results of the Air Quality Conformity Assessment for the 2005 CLRP and FY 2006-2011 TIP. The public comment period of this assessment ends on October 15 and TPB is scheduled to act on the conformity determination at its October meeting.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Item 10. 2005 Ozone Season Summary

Presenter: Jen Desimone and Sunil Kumar, Dept. Environmental Programs

Description:

COG Air Quality staff will report on the air quality trends and the ozone season summary for the Washington, D.C. region. The Washington region did not have any Code Red Days this summer, in spite of very hot weather. MWAQC actions have contributed to the air quality improvement this summer, which is good news.

Recommended Action:

Briefing