

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
1-Page Summary of Policy-Relevant Issues February 21, 2008

Key policy-relevant issues discussed at the February 21 meeting are summarized below.

PM_{2.5} SIP Comment Response

- Public Hearings were held on the following dates: Virginia, January 29, 2008, 7pm; Maryland, January 30, 2008, 6pm; District of Columbia, February 11, 2008, 6pm.
- There were 14 commenters and 39 individual comments. Categories of comments included General SIP Comments, Attainment Modeling, Control Measures, Local Hotspots, and Technical Corrections.
- TAC members approved the draft SIP and the comment and response document to advance to MWAQC for adoption. The City of Alexandria voted against the motion due to concerns about the lack of specific timetable for local area modeling requirements for the Mirant Potomac River Generating Station in Alexandria. Arlington County abstained from the vote.
- The revised draft SIP and a summary of comments and responses is posted at the following site: <http://sharepoint.mwcog.org/airquality/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

Transportation Conformity

- TPB released this year's conformity scope of work. The draft scope of work specifies that TPB will demonstrate that the mobile source emissions are below the interim and proposed new motor vehicle emission budgets for all milestone years for both PM_{2.5} and ozone. New proposed mobile budgets for ozone and PM_{2.5} have not yet been acted upon by EPA.

MWAQC Work Program and Budget

- Staff presented the proposed MWAQC work program and budget for FY09. The work program was modified to include development of a multi-pollutant strategy, including greenhouse gases. Funding levels for the core work program remain unchanged from FY 08 at \$473,616. The overall budget increased by approximately 2 percent as a result of the increase in funding for the local government initiatives tasks. The total FY09 proposed budget is \$574,280.

COG Climate Change Initiative

- The Climate Change Steering Committee (CCSC) will discuss possible regional reduction targets at its meeting in February.
- Staff will provide a best practices guide that will highlight successful greenhouse gas emission mitigation programs, based in part on the results of the IRE survey of local jurisdictions.

State and Local Air Agency Update

- In Virginia, Governor Kaine, through Executive Order 59, established a Climate Change Commission. The first meeting was held on February 1. Virginia DEQ presented a preliminary emission inventory. On February 20, Virginia held a meeting with EPA, Mirant, the City of Alexandria, and others to discuss the local modeling request for the Potomac River Generating Station. An Air Board meeting will be held in March and the agenda will include the PRGS permit action. The OTC VOC rules will be advanced to the Air Board in March.
- Maryland is working on the Conformity and Infrastructure SIPs. The OTC VOC rules have been adopted.
- The District has been working on the Conformity SIP, and is reviewing public comments on the OTC VOC rules.

Upcoming Events

- CCSC. February 27. MWAQC. March 7.