

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

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MEETING NOTICE

Date: May 24, 2006

Time: 12:00 pm– 2:00 pm

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol St., NE, 3rd Floor, Board Room
Washington, D.C. 20002

*Lunch will be available for members at 11:30 a.m.

AGENDA

- 12:00 1. Call to Order; Public Comment Period**
- 12:05 2. Approval of Minutes, Announcements, Chairman's Report**
- 12:10 3. 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)**
- 12:25 4. Mirant Settlement: Update**
- 12:45 5. SIP Development: Update**
- 1:00 6. Reasonable Further Progress Analysis**
- 1:10 7. Control Measure Strategy Update**
- 1:20 8. Plug-in Hybrid Technology**
- 1:40 9. State Air Agencies' Report**
- 1:50 10. Other Business: Virginia Mercury Rule**
- 2:00 11. Date for Next Meeting and Adjourn**

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

Presenter: Hon. Phil Mendelson, MWAQC Chair

Description:

Chair will call for approval of Meeting Summary for March 22, 2006, and for amendments to the agenda.

Recommended Action:

Approve minutes

Item: 4. Mirant Settlement: Update

Presenter: Mike Dowd, Virginia Dept. of Environmental Quality

Description:

In 2004 Mirant Mid-Atlantic Corporation signed a consent decree with Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the U.S. Department of Justice and Maryland Department of the Environment. On May 8, 2006, the consent decree was amended and cap was placed on NO_x emissions system-wide, affecting four power plants in Maryland and Virginia. The amended consent decree is subject to a 30-day comment period. (<http://www.usdoj.gov/enrd/open>) Mr. Dowd will discuss the agreement with Mirant.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

The following document can be found at:

http://www.mwcog.org/environment/committee/committee/documents.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=14

EPA Press Release

Item 5: SIP Development: Update

Presenter: Joan Rohlfs, Chief, Air Quality Planning

Description:

Many of the required SIP elements are near completion, but the states are still waiting for an Ozone Transport Commission agreement on model rules to be adopted. Attainment modeling for the control strategy will be done as soon as the states agree on the measures.

The Reasonable Further Progress inventory is complete and the 2009 mobile inventory is in progress. A draft SIP is still expected to be completed later this year and to be submitted ahead of the June 2007 deadline.

Recommended Action:

Briefing & Discussion

Materials:

The following document can be found at:

http://www.mwcog.org/environment/committee/committee/documents.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=14

Memo: SIP Development Update

Item 6. Reasonable Further Progress

Presenter: Sunil Kumar, Senior Environmental Planner

Description:

The Washington region is required to demonstrate Reasonable Further Progress (15%) in reducing emissions from 2002-2008. In order to do the analysis, the controlled inventories for 2008 need to be compared to the target for 2008. Mr. Kumar will report on the analysis.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

The following document can be found at:

http://www.mwcog.org/environment/committee/committee/documents.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=14

Table: Draft RFP Analysis

Item 7. Control Measure Strategy Update

Presenter: Jeff King, Environmental Planner

Description:

The Control Measures Work Group completed an analysis of Reasonably Available Control Measures (RACM) in May. The Work Group completed a list of priority measures for the SIP and is waiting for the states in the Ozone Transport Region to agree on a list of measures that will be adopted throughout the region. Mr. King will report on the short list of measures being considered by OTC.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

The following documents can be found at:

http://www.mwcog.org/environment/committee/committee/documents.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=14

Tables: OTC Priority List; Control Measures Workgroup List

Item 8. Plug-in Hybrid Technology Campaign

Presenter: Austan Librach, Director, Emerging Technologies,
Austin Energy (Austin, Texas)

Description:

The Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle is a technology being promoted as a measure to improve fuel economy and obtain air quality benefits. The City of Austin, TX, is taking the lead to promote the campaign in major metropolitan areas around the country. The goal of the campaign is to seek “soft purchase orders” to send to Detroit car manufactures. Mr. Librach will discuss the campaign and answer questions about the Plug-In Hybrid technology.

Recommended Action:

Briefing

Materials:

The following document can be found at:

http://www.mwcog.org/environment/committee/committee/documents.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=14

Information taken from:

<http://www.pluginpartners.org/campaignOverview>

Handout: Plug-in Campaign Overview

Item 9. Virginia Mercury Rule

**Presenter: Hon. Paul Ferguson, Arlington County
Jeffrey King, Environmental Planner**

Description:

Last year EPA issued the Clean Air Mercury Rule, a rule limiting mercury emissions from electric generating facilities. The rule allows trading of mercury emissions credits. State plans for implementing CAMR are due November 17, 2006.

On January 27, 2006, the Virginia Air Pollution Control Board received a regulation development report and considered a request to publish the DEQ proposed rule for public comment. The regulatory action encompasses the addition of one new part to 9 VAC 5-140 and one new article to 9 VAC 5-60. The proposed regulation would restrict trading. The Board approved the request to publish for public comment. The proposal has not yet been released for comment.

During the 2006 legislative session, the Clean Smokestacks Act was adopted on April 19, 2006, including provisions that the Board shall prohibit EGUs in nonattainment areas from meeting their compliance obligation by purchasing allowances from other facilities.

The Air Pollution Control Board will meet again on June 21, 2006. The agenda is not yet available for the June Board meeting, but action on the Clean Air Mercury Rule (CAMR) is not expected to be on the agenda. The proposal that the Board approved in January will need modification based on the legislation. The exact process to be used has not been finalized.

Supervisor Paul Ferguson, Arlington County, proposed that MWAQC send a letter supporting the action to restrict mercury trading to the Virginia State Air Pollution Board.

Recommended Action:

Approve Comment Letter

Materials:

The following document can be found at:

http://www.mwcog.org/environment/committee/committee/documents.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=14

Comment Letter to Virginia State Air Pollution Control Board