

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
1-Page Summary of Policy-Relevant Issues July 14 Meeting

Key policy-relevant issues discussed at the July 14 meeting are summarized below.

1. Air Quality Impacts of Renewable Fuel Standard

- EPA proposed phase 2 of a Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS-2). RFS-2 increases the mandate for renewable fuel from 10 to 36 billion gallons by 2022. TAC members are preparing a draft comment letter expressing concern about the air quality impact of increased use of biofuels. The public comment period ends September 25.

2. Transition to MOVES Model

- An interagency task force is being formed to address the transition to the new model. COG DEP and DTP staff are coordinating to identify issues with any of the new model inputs that may be required. The first meeting will be held in August.

3. Conformity Scope of Work

- TPB has begun preparation of a revised conformity analysis for the 2009 CLRP and 2010-2015 TIP, responding to project changes identified by MDOT and DDOT. The revised analysis is scheduled for adoption by October.

4. Proposed Revised NO₂ NAAQS

- EPA is proposing to establish a new more stringent NAAQS for NO₂. EPA is considering changing the form of the standard from an annual standard to a 1-hour standard that would be more protective of public health. EPA is considering a range of 1-hour levels from 80-100 ppb, and as low as 65 ppb to as high as 150 ppb. The comment period ends September 14, 2009.

5. Ozone Season Update

- To date, there have been 3 days exceeding the ozone standard: June 8, June 25, and June 26. The highest concentration of 85 ppb was measured at McMillan reservoir on June 8.

Upcoming Meetings:

AQPAC July 20

TPB July 15 17

Energy Advisory Committee July 16

Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee July 22

Adaptation Workshop July 23

MWAQC September 22