

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

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TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: May 11, 2010

Time: 10 am to 12 pm

Teleconference

Call In Number 888-898-8635

Passcode 774715

DRAFT Agenda

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- 10:00 1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary (April 13, 2010)**
Chairman Cecily Beall, District Department of Environment
- 10:10 2. Measuring Background Ozone Concentrations**
Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP, will discuss measurement of background concentrations of ozone and implications for attaining new tighter ozone NAAQS.
- 10:30 3. Climate Change Indicators in the United States**
Jeff King, COG/DEP, will discuss a new EPA report on climate change indicators in the United States.
- 10:45 4. Conformity Scope of Work**
Jane Posey, COG/DTP, will discuss the proposed scope of work for this year's conformity analysis.
- 10:55 5. ALA State of the Air Report**
Joan Rohlf, COG/DEP, will discuss the recently released American Lung Association State of the Air Report.
- 11:15 6. Voluntary Measures Progress Reporting**
Jeff King, COG DEP, will discuss voluntary measures progress reporting.
- 11:30 7. Other Business**
- 11:45 8. State and Local Air Agency Reports**
- 11:55 9. Set Date for Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, Adjourn, Next TAC Meeting: June 8, 2010**



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**MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
March 9, 2010 10am to Noon
COG Board Room**

Present:

Elizabeth Aiken, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Cecily Beall, District Department of Environment
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Erica Bannerman, City of Alexandria (by teleconference)
Randy Carroll, Maryland Department of the Environment
Austina Casey, District Department of Transportation
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (by teleconference)
Jessica Daniels, District Department of Environment
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment
Andrew Gayne, Marine Base Quantico
Brian Hug, Maryland Department of the Environment
Jon Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute (by teleconference)
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Bob Owolabi, Fairfax County Department of Transportation
Pam Parker, Montgomery County Department of Environment
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Ana Prados, Fairfax County Federation of Citizen's Associations
Howard Simons, Maryland Department of Transportation
Chuck Turner, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation

Staff:

Mike Clifford, COG/DTP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Anne Mariani, COG/DEP
Erin Morry, COG/DTP
Joan Rohlf, COG/DEP
Daivamani Sivasailam, COG/DTP

Other Participants:

Charley Baummer, MWAA
Flint Webb, Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary (March 9, 2010)

The meeting was called to order at 10:07. The minutes of the March 9, 2010 meeting were approved with no changes.

2. SIP Status Update

State air agency representatives provided an update on approval status of the region's submitted SIPs. EPA has not yet approved the region's ozone or fine particle SIPs. EPA Region III reports that it is waiting for a national checklist from headquarters for consistency. EPA will not be able to approve the SIPs until all of the included measures are fully adopted. Action on the fine particle SIP is not a high priority for EPA due to the region's clean data. EPA has issued an adequacy determination for the 2008 RFP mobile budgets contained in the 8-hour ozone SIP.

3. What Would It Take Scenario Study Results

Daivamani Sivasailam discussed draft results of the "What Would It Take" analysis for meeting mobile source greenhouse gas reduction targets. TPB Staff provided a briefing on the results of staff's What Would It Take Scenario Study. The "What Would It Take?" Scenario starts with specific goals for reducing greenhouse gas transportation emissions for 2030 and beyond, based on COG's November 2008 Climate Change Report. It assesses how such goals might be achieved through combinations of interventions that include increasing fuel efficiency, reducing the carbon-intensity of fuel, and improving travel efficiency. Local governments will have a significant role in reducing overall transportation-related GHG emissions, particularly in meeting early targets. Recent federal actions to improve fuel economy will provide significant reductions from the business-as-usual scenario.

In response to questions, Siva said that the \$7/gallon gas scenario assumed a 6 percent reduction in VMT. Based on a review of HPMS data, there was indication of a drop in VMT when gas prices hit \$4/gallon. Also to track compliance with CAFE, Siva referred members to a new report on a roadmap to meeting the new CAFE standards by 2012. The regional telework goal is 20%, no new widespread expansion of the program was modeled for WWIT. Trucks are projected to become a larger share of the emissions over time as light duty vehicles become cleaner.

4. Alternative Scenarios Development for Weight of Evidence

Members discussed development of possible alternative emission growth scenarios for use in weight of evidence for upcoming SIP development. Members discussed the need for alternative growth scenarios to support development of the next round of air quality plans due in 2013. One reason for this is the new ozone standard may be very challenging to meet and many of the low-hanging fruit in terms of measures to reduce emissions have already been implemented. Smart growth initiatives as well as climate change initiatives that may serve to reduce energy consumption may provide benefits that are hard to include in SIPs as traditional creditable control programs. The alternative scenarios could address land use and transportation, tree canopy coverage, and energy efficiency/renewable energy (EERE). Implications of the alternative scenarios could be incorporated into Weight of Evidence. Members suggested that the alternative scenario for EERE be developed first.

5. Air Quality Monitors in Fairfax County

Sunil Kumar discussed issues related to proposed closure of air quality monitoring sites in Fairfax County. Virginia DEQ has released a proposed statewide monitoring plan that includes elimination of the four air quality monitoring stations historically owned and operated by Fairfax County, as well as 2 sites owned by DEQ and operated by Fairfax County. Once the sites are closed, the only remaining monitoring station in Fairfax County will be the Lee Park site, which will include monitoring for ozone and fine particles (including both TEOM and FRM), as well as air toxics. The public comment period ends on April 30.

In response to questions, state air agency representatives said that you can't discontinue a monitor if its Design Value is above the NAAQS. Mt. Vernon has historically been a lead monitor in the region, but the current lead monitor is the Lee Park monitor. DEQ analysis indicates no statistical significant difference between the Mt. Vernon and Lee Park monitors (which are approximately 2 miles apart). Brian Hug stressed that this issue is being brought about because of issues with funding. The region already has sufficient numbers of monitors, and new costs will need to be budgeted soon to deal with new monitoring requirements for different pollutants. Ana Prados said that providing information on the costs of installing and operating a monitoring site, and the associated cost savings for closing a site, is useful.

6. EPA Regulatory Actions: Update

Jeff King discussed recent EPA regulatory actions, including new greenhouse gas emission standards for motor vehicles and proposed delay in implementing greenhouse gas regulations. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) finalized a joint rule to establish a national program consisting of new standards for model year 2012 through 2016 light-duty vehicles that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve fuel economy. EPA finalized the first-ever national greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions standards under the Clean Air Act, and NHTSA finalized Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act. The new standards apply to new passenger cars, light-duty trucks, and medium-duty passenger vehicles, covering model years 2012 through 2016. The EPA GHG standards require these vehicles to meet an estimated combined average emissions level of 250 grams of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per mile in model year 2016, equivalent to 35.5 miles per gallon (mpg) if the automotive industry were to meet this CO₂ level all through fuel economy improvements.

Doris McLeod said that the new CAIR rule will be much different, and may be called the Transport Rule, but that modeling to support the rule was done with the 85 ppb ozone NAAQS. Flint Webb said that the boiler MACT rule has been sent to OMB so should be published soon. Jon Kinsman said that one possible inaccuracy in the table of EPA regulatory actions is NSPS which may become effective upon proposal, not effective date.

7. Other Business

Ozone season forecasting will begin on April 15. There has already been one exceedance in the region, 78 ppb on April 11. The forecasting protocol will be modified so that the lead pollutant will be identified for days 2 and 3.

COG is participating with a consortium to respond to a DOE proposal setting up a regional innovation cluster for energy efficiency.

COG is anticipating an award of a new Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) project focused on landfill equipment in Prince William County and passenger vessels in the Port of Alexandria. COG staff recently conducted a monitoring and verification trip with MDE staff to locations in Maryland to inspect various heavy duty construction equipment that were equipped with engine upgrades or diesel particulate filters.

COG has established an on-line reporting portal to collect data on progress in meeting the region's 2012 Climate and Energy Action Plan. Initial surveys will focus on Inventories and Action Plans, Municipal Renewable Energy, and Street Lights. COG is also working with jurisdictions to develop a list of data needs for a potential data sharing agreement with regional utilities. See:

<http://ncrportal.mwcog.org/sites/surveys/climate/Lists/Announcements/AllItems.aspx>

8. State and Local Air Agency Reports

Tom Ballou reported for Virginia. DEQ recently met with Mirant to discuss the draft operating permit containing new NO_x limits. Mirant has submitted a counter proposal. Virginia DEQ and VDOT did submit comments on the new ozone standard, suggesting that the standard be set closer to the high end of the range and the secondary standard be set at the same level as the primary standard.

Cecily Beall reported for the District. The internal legal review of the OTC VOC regulations has been completed. Additional agencies reviews are pending. The DC climate action plan will be announced on Earth Day. Climate planning stakeholder meetings are pending.

Diane Franks reported for Maryland. The legislative session is ending, there are no new major regulatory initiatives for consideration by AQCAC. Staff are working on screening modeling inventories for OTC. MDE will start a public stakeholder participation process for the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act.

Pam Parker reported for Montgomery County. The county will be replacing all the solid waste trucks to run on CNG. One of the bigger challenges will be to set up all the necessary infrastructure for CNG fueling.

9. Set Date for Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, Adjourn, Next TAC

Meeting: May 11, 2010