MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee 1-Page Summary of Policy-Relevant Issues July 8, 2005

Key policy-relevant issues discussed at the July 8 TAC meeting are summarized below.

Preliminary Emissions Inventory

- A preliminary draft 2002 base year and 2009 controlled and uncontrolled emissions inventory is complete.
- The results indicate that between 2002 and 2009, NOx emissions decline by 25 percent and VOC emissions decline by 27 percent.
- Revisions to the point and mobile source estimates are expected. The current analysis assumes no reductions from the NOx SIP Call or CAIR for point sources. Discussions continue on how to account for trading credits. Mobile modeling needs to be updated with the latest inputs.

Preliminary Control Analysis

- A preliminary control analysis is complete. The starting point for the analysis is
 the preliminary emissions inventory. In the absence of EPA guidance and
 attainment modeling results, attainment or emission reduction goal scenarios were
 developed. Scenario 1 assumes traditional Rate of Progress (ROP), or 21 percent
 reduction from the 2002 base. Scenario 2 assumes an additional 10 percent
 reduction beyond ROP.
- Findings suggest that reductions from existing controls may enable the region to meet traditional Rate of Progress requirements, should they apply.
- If an additional 10 percent reduction beyond ROP goals is needed, new or expanded control measures may be needed to address a potential shortfall.
- The strategy will evolve as more information becomes available, including EPA guidance, revised inventories, results of attainment modeling, and deliberations of IAQC and MWAQC.

PM2.5 Conformity

- TPB released a draft work scope and schedule for handling PM2.5 conformity.
- TPB intends to use the build no greater than 2002 budget test in the absence of approved SIP budgets.
- The only precursor TPB intends to consider is NOx emissions until the state air agencies or EPA make a finding on whether VOCs, SOx, and ammonia contribute significantly to PM_{2.5} pollution in the region.
- An MWAQC comment letter will be prepared supporting TPB's proposed approach for this year's conformity analysis. The letter will urge TPB and the state air agencies to work together to determine which option (build no greater than 2002 or build no greater than no-build) is appropriate for PM2.5 conformity analysis. The letter will also urge collaboration in determining which additional pollutant precursors to analyze.