

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
May 14, 2013
10:40 AM to 1:40 PM

Present:

Cecily Beall, District Department of the Environment
Ram Tangirala, District Department of the Environment
Jessica Daniels, District Department of the Environment
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Austina Casey, District Department of Transportation
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment
Brian Hug, Maryland Department of the Environment
Randy Carroll, Maryland Department of the Environment
Howard Simons, Maryland Department of Transportation
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Kanti Srikanth, Virginia Department of Transportation
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Barbara Hardy, Fairfax County Health Department
Ed Nantamu, Fairfax County Health Department
Khoa Tran, City of Alexandria
Gwen Kennedy, Loudoun County
Khoa Tran, City of Alexandria
Jeff Harn, Arlington County
Greg Beacoat, EPA Region 3

Staff:

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Joan Rohlf, COG/DEP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Jane Posey, COG/DTP
Eulalie Lucas, COG/DTP
Elena Constantine, COG/DTP

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary

Cecily Beall called the meeting to order at 10:40 AM. The April 9, 2013 meeting summary was approved without any changes.

2. Ozone Data and 2013 Ozone Season Forecasting and Outlook

Sunil Kumar briefed on the historical ozone data and the 2013 ozone season data. He also provided an outlook for the 2013 ozone season weather. Tad mentioned a study undertaken by the University of Maryland regarding the temperature trend in the region. In response to a question from Ram, Sunil pointed out for a need to revise the slide related to the comparison of 90 degree days and ozone exceedance days.

3. Review of Recent OTC Modeling Results

Tom Ballou presented an overview of the recent OTC modeling results. He described the ozone design

values projected for 2015 and 2018 (Level 2 screening modeling) and for 2020 (Level 3 screening modeling). The 2015 and 2018 results were interpolated from the 2007 and 2020 modeled results, which showed attainment of the 2008 ozone standard.

Tad said the OTC Level 3 modeling did not include CAFE, Tier 3 and shale gas NOx emissions. He said that a problem with inputs to the model are demand response programs, which occur sporadically on the worst days of summer. Doris said the modeling did not include ICI boiler MACT controls and shipping lane controls. Tad called the model run “optimistic”. Tom Ballou said the region will make attainment in 2015-2020, but it’s not certain when it will happen. The States had different interpretations of the modeling results.

4. Voluntary Bump-Up Memorandum Review

Sunil Kumar presented the revised memorandum for different options related to the attainment of the 2008 ozone NAAQS. Another option (Option D) was added related to the emissions control planning in anticipation of the moderate reclassification to the memo developed earlier.

Kanti said the Option D is already being implemented.

Tad suggested an Option E, which would expedite the timeline to attain the standard in the interest of public health. MDE does not think that the 0.075 ppm standard is protective of public health. Diane asked Sunil about the second bullet of Option A. She wanted to know if the assumption there that there are less than three years available to implement controls and attain the standard by 2018 (if the data does not show attainment by 2015) was based on the fact that the region does not wait for EPA to bump-up the region to moderate before implementing controls. Sunil answered in the affirmative.

Ram suggested that the group request EPA for a voluntary bump-up to moderate as the observed data does not show attainment by 2015. Howard thought that the elected officials would get confused with states having different interpretations of the modeling results.

Cecily said the basic message to MWAQC is the region has started to pursue advanced ozone planning. Kanti and Tom said the region was going to work on the RFP plan soon, which is an advanced planning for ozone.

Kanti wanted to know the context in which the memorandum will be presented to MWAQC. Specifically, he asked if this will be an action or informational item. Joan responded that it will be an information item. Kanti suggested that TAC support Option D, planning in anticipation of a Moderate designation. The FY 2014 MWAQC Work Program includes Option D.

Cecily asked the members about their opinion on the technical workshop. Joan said the workshop date needs to be extended as the OTC modeling results would not be available by June/July. Cecily said the goal of the workshop should be to reduce the gap between interpretations of the modeling results. Joan proposed that the MWAQC Executive committee should be presented with two options for discussion during the July MWAQC meeting. First option is the ozone attainment options and second is the discussion on state control measures. Cecily said the memo should show that the states are beginning an advanced RFP process. This would be an information item, no action or decision needed. Doris suggested limiting the memorandum to just two pages for MWAQC.

5. Control Strategies to Reduce Ozone

Jessica and Tad discussed various control measures, which are in different stages in the process of adoption by the District. Tad talked about such measures for Maryland. Tom talked about controls in Virginia. Tad and Tom talked about working on the “behind the meter” demand response program. Tad expressed interest in a regional control list.

6. MWAQC Work Program and Budget

Joan discussed the revised MWAQC Work Program and Budget, which will be presented to MWAQC for approval in May. She mentioned that there are two major changes since the work program was presented in December 2012. These are the RFP plan and a special project sponsored by DDOE and MDE. An increase of \$50,000 is being requested from the previous year, which is contingent on the funding of the pass-through budget. The MWAQC Budget Committee has agreed to recommend approval to MWAQC, and the TAC agreed.

7. State & Local Updates

There was none.

The meeting ended on 1:40 PM.