



Accomplishments:

- *PM_{2.5} SIP Completed.*
- *Negotiated agreement to improve PM_{2.5} monitoring in Alexandria.*
- *Clean data determination proposed for PM_{2.5}.*
- *Letter to VAPCB requesting lower opacity standard.*
- *Letter to VDEQ regarding Dominion's plans to build a coal-fired power plant.*

MWAQC 2008 Annual Report

Fine Particle Plan Submitted

Fine Particle Plan Submitted
In March 2008, MWAQC approved a new air quality plan that goes beyond Clean Air Act requirements in an effort to gain further reductions in fine particle pollution. The plan was submitted to EPA before the April deadline.

City of Alexandria and Mirant
To address concerns expressed by the City of Alexandria, MWAQC adopted a resolution requesting the installation of a Federal Reference Monitor (FRM) for PM_{2.5}; a PM_{2.5} Implementation Workgroup be convened to develop a methodology for a microscale analysis; and a letter be sent to the Virginia State Air Pollution Control Board requesting action be

initiated to tighten Virginia's standards for opacity.

Clean Data Proposed
On September 29, MWAQC sent a letter requesting that EPA issue a Clean Data determination for the Metropolitan Washington nonattainment area for the 1997 PM_{2.5} standards. Data from the region's monitors have been in compliance with the standard since 2005.

EPA's PM_{2.5} Attainment Recommendation
On October 22, EPA proposed to determine that the Metropolitan Washington nonattainment area monitors attained the 1997 PM_{2.5}

standard. If made final, State Implementation Plans (SIPs) planning requirements shall be suspended as long as the area continues to attain the standard.

"This plan goes far beyond what the region is required to do," said David Snyder, MWAQC Chair and Fall Church City Council member.

"The plan includes a combination of state measures and local government initiatives such as wind energy purchases, green fleets and green building guidelines that will reduce emissions by reducing demand on power plants.

This reflects the hard work of people in local government and business."

Climate Change and Air Quality Converge

MWAQC contributed to COG's Climate Change Report as well as leadership to the Climate Change Steering Committee (CCSC).

Dave Snyder, MWAQC Chair, participated on the CCSC, chaired by Nancy Floreen

(previous MWAQC Chair).

MWAQC staff provided technical support to the CCSC, developing a regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory, a Best Practices catalogue, and a Climate Change Report.

In March, MWAQC sent a comment letter to VDEQ about Dominion's plans to construct a 668 MW coal-fired electric plant in Wise County, VA. MWAQC requested an analysis of GHG emissions from the proposed facility.



MWAQC 2008 Annual Report

December 2008

Even with a tougher standard in place, the region did not see an increase in the number of ozone exceedance days.

However, Code Red days are back with a total of three during the 2008 season.

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				59	72	67
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
58	61	74	75	57	38	48
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
48	45	53	57	59	49	58
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
51	44	41	51	47	41	49
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
56	66	51	50	68	74	44

JUNE

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
67	60	67	50	82	71	81
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
54	73	85	74	102	94	74
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
60	57	57	50	52	60	80
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
67	66	56	66	72	62	54
29	30					
53	48					

JULY

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		50	64	74	64	58
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
52	61	72	40	64	75	76
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
69	64	85	92	112	97	66
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
69	70	69	62	53	69	67
27	28	29	30	31		
56	73	89	73	67		

AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
					75	59
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
51	57	61	65	61	47	50
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
55	47	58	71	62	63	56
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
60	68	77	66	80	71	51
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
50	78	49	56	43	27	61
31						
57						

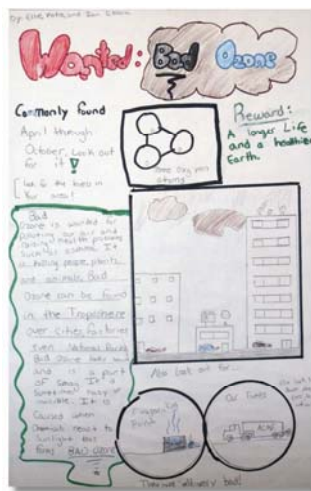
SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	57	71	87	82	62	32
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
49	67	37	42	46	30	42
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
43	46	29	49	57	37	45
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
64	64	42	46	30	23	32
28	29	30				
31	37	39				

Curriculum Launched for Local Schools

In February 2008, Clean Air Partners launched a formal education curriculum, "On the Air: Exploring Air Pollution Sources and Solutions," for use in elementary schools throughout the region.

"On the Air" was developed as a holistic curriculum that addresses important science concepts, as well as math, technology, social studies, language arts, and health standards, all of which



are cross referenced to the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia education standards.

Students, educators, and administrators find "On the Air" compelling and interactive, which includes hands-on activities, labs, and investigations.

As a result, the curriculum has been utilized in local schools, reaching over 500 students.

AQPAC Advises on PM_{2.5} & Climate Change

AQPAC commented to MWAQC on the fine particle SIP in February and commented to the CCSC on COG's draft Climate Change Report in September.

After Jill Engel-Cox resigned

as chair in May, Deron Lovaas chaired the committee.

AQPAC participated on the MWAQC/AQPAC Bylaws Review Committee to develop new bylaws to reinvigorate its membership.

AQPAC's mission was expanded to include climate change issues and terms were proposed for AQPAC members.

Clean Air Interstate Rule Vacated

On July 11, 2008, the U.S. Court of Appeals vacated the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR), undermining the fine particle and ozone SIPs submitted by the Washington region as well as other states.

The court found several major flaws in the rule so the court vacated the rule in its entirety and remanded it to EPA to promulgate a new rule consistent with the opinion. Both the 8-hour ozone and the PM_{2.5} SIPs include references to

CAIR as a control measure.

CAIR also was included as a control program that provided emission reductions in upwind regions; such reductions were included in the region's attainment modeling runs.

If the vacature stands, the regions' SIPs may be at risk of disapproval. States are working to find a substitute measure to CAIR and to consider

available planning options.

EPA has asked for a rehearing en banc (the full court of Appeals). A ruling is expected in December.

