MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee 1-Page Summary of Policy-Relevant Issues March 8, 2011 Meeting

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

1. PM2.5 Redesignation

- The states have all agreed to continue work to pursue a redesignation request for PM2.5 and to submit a corresponding maintenance plan.
- States will hold a coordination call to discuss any outstanding questions or concerns, including whether to withdraw the currently submitted PM2.5 SIP
- Staff will prepare a table with the pros/cons of various options for proceeding with the redesignation request.

2. Annual Progress Report

- This year COG has combined several surveys into one regional survey. The IGBG Green Building Survey, the CEEPC annual reporting, and reporting for the voluntary bundle are being handled concurrently.
- Survey results have been received from most members. Staff are reviewing in preparation for developing a report.
- Local governments and state air agencies need to coordinate to resolve issues related to known shortfalls in the region's voluntary bundle. Shortfalls have been created due to changes in the wind power purchase program and issues related to retirement of NOx allowances.

3. EPA Regulatory Actions

• EPA has issued a final rule to address emissions of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs). The final rule scaled back requirements that were contained in the initial proposal. For large sources, the rule establishes strict emission limits for HAPs. For smaller sources, alternative compliance approaches have been included, including use of tune-ups and work practice standards. The rule also includes a requirement to conduct an energy audit to identify options to reduce the need for energy and associated emissions.

4. Travel Demand Model

• COG STP staff are currently developing a new revised Travel Demand Model that will once complete be used to prepare regional emission analysis for conformity and SIP development. The new model will have a much more detailed zone system, and will be based on the Household Travel Survey conducted in 2007/2008. Under the current schedule, the model will be available for use later in 2011.

5. Integrated Community Energy Planning

 COG has issued an RFP for expert consulting services to support the Integrated Energy Solutions Task Force. The statement of work includes support for identification of current local policies and programs with recommendations for potential changes to facilitate new clean energy. It also includes a task to develop information on the costs and benefits of available clean energy resources as well as the business case for select approaches.

Upcoming Events

ACPAC, March 14; TPB; March 16; EAC March 17; CEEPC, March 23