

**MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee**  
**1-Page Summary of Policy-Relevant Issues May 13, 2008**

Key policy-relevant issues discussed at the May 13 meeting are summarized below.

American Lung Association (ALA) State of the Air Report

- The ALA released its annual State of the Air Report. The report acknowledged that there have been fewer exceedance days in recent years, however, the study ranks the metropolitan Washington region as #9 in ozone pollution and #10 in particle pollution compared to other large cities in the US.
- A COG response was prepared for MWAQC Executives, stating that the air quality in the region has improved but that more work is needed to improve air quality.

Attainment of the One-hour Ozone Standard

- EPA has proposed to make a finding that the Washington, DC-MD-VA region has attained the one-hour ozone NAAQS.

Proposed Lead NAAQS

- EPA has proposed a new lower NAAQS for lead. The region stopped monitoring for ambient lead in the late 1990s. Preliminary analysis of the most recent monitoring data suggest that the region is already in compliance with the EPA proposed lead NAAQS.

Transportation Conformity

- COG DTP staff are in the process of preparing the mobile emissions estimates for the conformity determination for the 2008 CLRP. A contingency plan has been prepared to demonstrate conformity on a delayed timeline in the event that Northern Virginia transportation funding issues are not resolved. All Northern Virginia capacity increasing projects would be removed from the analysis under the contingency plan.

EERE Measurement and Verification Protocols

- Staff are in the process of developing a protocol design concept. It is envisioned that the protocol will not be used to satisfy regulatory requirements of the regional public service commissions for demand response or energy efficiency, or for use in the PJM RPM or forward capacity markets. The protocol will be developed primarily to support inclusion of EERE in SIPs or regional climate change plans. Staff are recommending that the protocol be based on the IPMVP, the EPA National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency protocol recommendations, and the Climate Registry General Reporting Protocol.

Climate Change Steering Committee (CCSC)

- The CCSC is in the process of developing a set of recommendations for inclusion in the final climate report. Categories of recommendations include reduction targets, government lead by example, economic development, advocacy positions, outreach/education, energy, transportation, land use, financing and adaptation. The COG Board is scheduled to receive the draft report in June.

PM Implementation Workgroup

- The initial meeting of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> Implementation Workgroup took place on April 10th, 2008. The group decided to focus its work on topics that will likely not be addressed by EPA's PM-2.5 pending implementation rule such as emissions calculations and ambient air quality impact analysis. Interested persons may access more information, including meeting agendas and summaries, at the following FTP site: <ftp://ftp.deq.state.va.us/pub/air/pm25workgroup/>

Transit Bus Replacement Options

- Local governments in the region may benefit from additional information on the relative emission and cost impact of transit bus replacement options. Staff will arrange a special meeting to provide quantitative assessment of various bus options, including clean diesel and diesel hybrids.

State and Local Air Agency Update

- In Virginia, two Air Board meeting will be held in May. One will address the OTC VOC rules. The other will be for the Wise County proposed power plant. VDEQ has provided SEP funds to the City of Alexandria for school bus retrofits.
- Maryland is working to develop a distributed generation rule. The OTC VOC rules have been adopted. The PM infrastructure SIP was completed. A regional haze SIP will be prepared this summer.
- CAL LEV was adopted by the City Council. The CAIR rule, infrastructure SIP, and OTC VOC rules are still being finalized.

### Upcoming Events

- TPB. May 21.
- Virginia PM Workgroup. May 21.
- AQPAC. May 19.
- CCSC. May 28
- MWAQC. May 28.