

**Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee**  
**Suite 300, 777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002-4239**  
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**DRAFT MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 24, 2010 MEETING**

**Attendance:**

**Members and Alternates**

Hon. Marcus Afzali, City of College Park  
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Hon. John Britton, City of Rockville  
Randy Carroll, Maryland Department of the Environment  
Hon. John Cook, Fairfax County  
Jessica Daniels, District Department of the Environment  
Hon. Jay Fisette, Arlington County  
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment  
Barbara Hardy, Fairfax County  
Maurice Keys, District Department of Transportation  
Hon. Phil Mendelson, District of Columbia  
Hon. Leta Mach, City of Greenbelt  
Pam Parker, Montgomery County  
Hon. Redella Pepper, City of Alexandria  
Hon. Fred Schultz, City of Takoma Park  
JoAnne Sorensen, Virginia Department of Transportation  
Hon. Beverly Warfield, Prince George's County

**Staff:**

Mike Clifford, COG/DTP  
Jen Desimone, COG/DEP  
Jeff King, COG/DEP  
Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP  
Eulalie Lucas, COG/DTP  
Joan Rohlf, COG/DEP  
Daivamani Sivasailam, COG/DTP  
Harriet West, Clean Air Partners

**Others:**

Bob Owolabi, Fairfax County Department of Transportation

**1. Public Comment Period, Approval of Minutes, Chair's Remarks**

Chair Mach called the meeting to order at 12:10pm. The minutes of the January 27, 2010 meeting were approved with no changes. Ms. Mach made several announcements. An orientation for new members of MWAQC was held this morning. Ms. Mach welcomed new members: Supervisor John Cook, Fairfax County, Marcus Afzali, College Park City Council, and Fred Shultz, City Council, Takoma Park. An updated MWAQC Member Manual was provided to members containing meetings schedule, membership roster, bylaws, a glossary of terms, and explanatory

information about air quality and transportation conformity. Last month MWAQC approved a comment letter on EPA's proposed ozone standard. On February 2 there was a public hearing in Arlington on the standard. EPA is receiving comments until March 22. MWAQC's comment letter is posted on the MWAQC website. There is a meeting of the State Air Directors in Philadelphia today, so several alternates are in attendance at the meeting today.

## **2. Committee Reports**

### ***Technical Advisory Committee***

Ms. Daniels reported on the February 9 and March 9 meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee. The committee discussed a new national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), which is on the agenda today.

The Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) is urging EPA to adopt new national regulations based on successful local and regional strategies adopted in the mid-Atlantic and Northeast to reduce emissions from a larger region across multiple sectors. The main focus is on electric power plants, vehicle emission standards, and new fuel standards.

EPA has released its final version of MOVES2010 (Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator model). There will be a 2-year grace period for transportation conformity. The next round of State Implementation Plans (SIPS) must use emission inventory estimates using MOVES2010. There is an interagency workgroup meeting monthly to develop the process, approach, and data inputs that will be needed to ensure a successful transition.

The Climate Energy Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) adopted a 2010-2012 Climate and Energy Action Workplan on January 27.

The TAC Chair and the MWAQC Executive Committee have approved four stakeholder members for 2010, including Walt Seedlock, Jon Kinsman, Ana Prados, and Andrew Gayne.

Members also received a report on a University of Maryland research study on the impact of urbanization in the metropolitan Washington region on temperatures and air quality in Baltimore. Model results show that higher temperature and ozone concentrations in Baltimore are exacerbated by upstream urbanization and that even trees planted in the suburbs or in Washington, DC can help alleviate the heat island effect of Baltimore.

### ***Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC)***

Ms. Rohlfs reported on a recent meeting of the ACPAC. The main areas of focus were an update on the regional Climate and Energy Action Plan for 2012 adopted by CEEPC on January 27; EPA's proposal to strengthen the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for ground-level ozone to a level within the range of 0.060-0.070 parts per million; and the proposed MWAQC work program and budget for 2011. Members expressed interest in tree canopy initiatives so asked for a report on what is being done to maintain tree canopy at their next meeting. Members voted in favor of changing the name of the committee to the Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC), which will be acted on under other business at the MWAQC meeting today.

### ***Clean Air Partners***

Ms. West provided the Clean Air Partners Report. This year's Earth Hour will take place on Saturday, March 27, 2010 from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Earth Hour is a global campaign to call attention to climate change by doing something quite simple - turning off the lights for one hour. Visit the Earth Hour website ([www.myearthhour.org](http://www.myearthhour.org)) to sign up. The Marketing Committee met on February 19, 2010 to discuss the 2010 annual public awareness campaign which will include a combination of radio and transit advertising. Applications for this year's poster and video contests are due March 25, 2010. Detailed information is available on the Clean Air Partners web site ([www.cleanairpartners.net](http://www.cleanairpartners.net)). Winners will be notified by April 22, 2010 (Earth Day) and formally recognized at the Clean Air Partners' Annual Meeting in May. The Finance Committee will meet in March to discuss the preliminary FY 2011 Work Plan and Budget and contract renewals for the Marketing Consultant and Managing Director. The Education Program Manager's contract will go out for re-bid this year as part of COG's routine procurement process.

### **3. Proposed: National Measures to Improve Air Quality**

Mr. King discussed new national measures proposed by the Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) for implementation to assist the region in meeting its air quality goals. The OTC is urging EPA to adopt new national regulations based on successful local and regional strategies adopted in the mid-Atlantic and Northeast to reduce emissions from a larger region across multiple sectors. The main focus is on electric power plants, vehicle emission standards, and new fuel standards. In addition to these top priorities, other national initiatives include controlling large industrial/commercial boilers, consumer and commercial products, cement kilns, distributed generation units, and other small industrial sources such as asphalt plants, glass manufacturing, auto repair and refinishing, and solvent cleaning operations.

### **4. NO<sub>2</sub> Final Standard, Schedule**

Mr. Kumar discussed EPA's final NAAQS for NO<sub>2</sub>. On January 22, 2010, EPA finalized a proposal to strengthen the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>). EPA selected the upper end of the proposed range of 100 parts per billion for the 1-hour standard. The rule also requires establishment of new roadside monitoring requirements. Attainment designations will likely be unclassifiable until the region is able to install and operate a new network of monitors which is not expected to occur until 2016/2017. New mobile budgets will not be required until after a nonattainment designation.

Mr. Britton asked about the current monitoring network for NO<sub>2</sub> and expectations for future requirements for the region. There are currently no roadside monitors for NO<sub>2</sub>. At least 3 years of data will be needed to allow for Design Value calculations that would serve as the basis for designations. It is not clear if the region will need more than 2 new roadside monitors.

Ms. Rohlfs discussed comments submitted at the Public Hearing on the proposed Ozone Standard in Arlington, Virginia. Comments heard included criticism of the scientific basis for the proposal as well as support for a tighter new standard to protect public health, particularly for children. The public comment period ends on March 22, 2010.

### **5. MWAQC FY 2011 Work Program and Budget (ACTION)**

Ms. Rohlfs discussed the proposed MWAQC work program and budget for 2011. There is no change to the core work program and a small \$5000 increase in the local government portion of

the work program. Work activities for the year will include SIP inventory development, multi-pollutant control strategy development, transitioning to the MOVES model, local government assistance and tracking progress. The budget committee met in December and supported the proposed work program and budget. The work program and budget was also reviewed and supported by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). A motion was made and seconded to adopt the proposed work program and budget. The motion passed unanimously.

## **6. State and Local Air Reports**

Ms. Daniels reported for the District. The District Department of the Environment has recently moved offices.

Mr. Ballou reported for Virginia. DEQ is working on a new operating permit for the Mirant Potomac River Power Plant. All of the OTC VOC rules have been adopted and will soon be sent to EPA for approval. Last week, Virginia filed suit against EPA on the endangerment finding for greenhouse gases.

Ms. Franks reported for Maryland. Regulatory actions included finalizing the OTC VOC regulations and CTGs. The next RGGI auction is being scheduled. MDE is reviewing bills in the current legislative session.

## **7. New Business**

Ms. Rohlfs said that AQPAC members voted in favor of changing the name of the committee to the Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC). A motion was made and seconded to approve the name change as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Mach provided a certificate of appreciation to former Chair Mendelson.

**8. Set Date for Next Meeting, Adjourn:** The next meeting will be held on April 28, 2010. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.