

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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December 7, 2007

The Honorable Nancy Floreen
Chair
Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee
777 North Capitol Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002 – 4239

Dear Chair Floreen:

This letter responds to your November 14, 2007 letter to me regarding aspects of the region's forthcoming state air quality implementation plan (SIP) for fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}). In your letter you identified details of the SIP's contingency plan element and requested TPB's assistance in meeting that requirement.

Specifically, you requested that TPB support the same mobile source nitrogen oxide (NO_x) reduction commitment for the PM_{2.5} SIP, which TPB provided to MWAQC for the 8-hour ozone SIP earlier this year. That earlier ozone season NO_x reduction of 1.8 tons per day translates into an annual reduction of 657 tons per year; it would also be used to establish a mobile source NO_x budget for 2010 in the PM_{2.5} SIP.

At today's meeting of the TPB Steering Committee, members discussed your letter and firmly supported MWAQC's request. Therefore, on behalf of the TPB, I am pleased to reaffirm the TPB's commitment to allocating the above NO_x reductions to help meet MWAQC's PM_{2.5} SIP contingency requirement.

The TPB is pleased to be able to provide this assistance to MWAQC in meeting its SIP responsibilities and looks forward to continuing our close technical and policy working relationships as we move forward in meeting future planning requirements.

Sincerely,



Catherine Hudgins
Chair, National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board