

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
March 10, 2015
10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Present:

Cecily Beall, District Department of the Environment
Ram Tangirala, District Department of the Environment
Jessica Daniels, District Department of the Environment
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Mike Kiss, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Tad Aburn, Maryland Department of the Environment
Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment
Molly Berger, Maryland Department of the Environment
Brian Hug, Maryland Department of the Environment
Austina Casey, District Department of Transportation
Howard Simons, Maryland Department of Transportation
Lyn Erickson, Maryland Department of Transportation
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Gwen Kennedy, Loudoun County
Khoa Tran, City of Alexandria
Walter Seedlock, Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority

Staff:

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Jennifer Desimone, COG/DEP
Steve Walz, COG/DEP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Elena Constantine, COG/DTP
Ron Milone, COG/DTP
Jane Posey, COG/DTP
Jinchul Park, COG/DTP
Eulalie Lucas, COG/DTP

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary

Tad Aburn called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The February 10 meeting summary was approved without any changes.

2. Briefing on 2008 Ozone NAAQS Implementation Rule

Sunil presented an overview of the 2008 Ozone NAAQS Implementation Rule. The rule provides guidelines for planning to meet 2008 ozone NAAQS and includes a proposal to revoke the 1997 8-hour ozone NAAQS in order to provide additional flexibility to areas still working to complete the control requirements of that NAAQS. Even though the rule proposes to revoke the above NAAQS, anti-backsliding requirements such as, motor vehicle emissions budgets will still apply. The rule takes into consideration the recent court decision to set the attainment deadline for the 2008 ozone NAAQS at July 20, 2015 for the Washington region. Though the ozone nonattainment areas can request an extension of the attainment deadline for two consecutive years, the Washington region can only do so for one year due to constraints associated with its ozone data.

3a. Draft Letter to Request Extension of the Attainment Date (2008 Ozone NAAQS)

Sunil discussed details of a draft letter template requesting an extension of the 2008 ozone NAAQS attainment deadline. Ram said since the District will be certifying data for all pollutants by May 1, the letter does not need to ask for an early certification of data. The group agreed that the individual jurisdictions will be making changes in the template to reflect individual situations.

3b. Next Steps for Ozone Planning

Sunil presented a detailed timeline of actions related to the 2008 ozone NAAQS, the expected 2015 ozone NAAQS, and the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS. He discussed various tasks associated with each NAAQS. He specifically mentioned the need to prepare ground work for the upcoming tighter ozone NAAQS while simultaneously working on the current 2008 ozone NAAQS.

Elena pointed out the need for a new set of mobile budgets for ozone as the current budgets were developed using Mobile6.2 model, which could pose a challenge in the future. Steve said this particular issue could be part of the discussion in future meetings.

4. Regional Action Plan – State and Local Measures

Steve said COG staff would develop a draft resolution for MWAQC, which would be discussed in TAC meeting in April. He discussed the outlines of the resolution. The group agreed with Steve's proposal. Steve asked members to review the list of local measures in the draft Regional Action Plan document. He said the group needs to agree on the resolution in April to give more time to deal with this issue.

5. Multi-Sector Greenhouse Gas Work Group Update

Steve discussed the details of the three meetings held for the three sub-groups namely, energy & built environment, land-use, and transportation sub-groups. He also talked about the schedules for these sub-groups. He discussed a number of greenhouse gas reduction strategies suggested in these sub-group meetings.

Tad said that the multi-sector work group should consider the "what would it take" approach instead of the "what can we do" approach with respect to the greenhouse gas reduction efforts. He suggested including as part of the greenhouse gas reduction effort, a few measures such as, mobile CO₂ emission development along with the annual conformity analysis effort and motor vehicle emissions reduction goals.

6. Update on MARAMA Workshop - 2014 Air Quality Overview, Ozone & Health Impacts

MARAMA held a workshop for issues related to the 2014 air quality overview, ozone and its health impacts in Pennsylvania. A number of topics related to the above issues were covered in the workshop.

7. State and Local Updates

The District, Maryland, Virginia, and the local governments provided updates for their respective jurisdictions.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.