

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
September 10, 2019, 10:00 AM to 11:15 AM

Present:

Brian Hug, Maryland Department of the Environment
Alex Brun, Maryland Department of the Environment
Ram Tangirala District Department of Energy & Environment,
Joseph Jakuta, District Department of Energy & Environment
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Regina Moore, Virginia Department of Transportation
Colleen Turner, Maryland Department of Transportation
Virginia Burke, Maryland Department of Transportation
Trevor Manning, Navy Mid-Atlantic
John Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute
Norman Whitaker, Virginia Department of Transportation
Samuel Gaber, Fairfax County
Najib Salehi, Loudoun County

Staff:

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Jen Desimone, COG/DEP
Jane Posey, COG/DTP
Jinchul Park, COG/DTP
Dusan Vuksan, COG/DTP
Erin Morrow, COG/DTP

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary

Brian Hug called the meeting to order at 10 am. The June 11th meeting summary was approved without any changes.

2. Ozone Season Update & Initial Thoughts on Planning Scenarios for 2015 Ozone NAAQS

Sunil discussed ozone and fine particles data for the 2019 ozone season until September 3rd. There was one exceedance of the 24-hour average PM_{2.5} NAAQS, which was recorded on July 4th. PM_{2.5} levels reached code red at the District monitors, highest being 67.5 ug/m³. There were nine exceedances of the 2015 ozone NAAQS until that day and all were code orange. The draft design value for the period 2017-2019 was 72 ppb based on data until September 3rd. An analysis of ozone data at different monitors during 2018-2020 showed that the minimum 4th highest daily maximum 8-hour average needed to maintain the nonattainment status for the 2015 ozone NAAQS in 2020 is 65 ppb at Beltsville monitor. Therefore, it seems that there is a good chance the Washington region may not attain the 2015 ozone NAAQS in 2020. Sunil discussed four possible scenarios and follow up actions related to the attainment of the 2015 ozone NAAQS.

1. Case 1 (Best case scenario -Attainment) – Th region can submit a redesignation request/maintenance plan
2. Case 2 (Nonattainment, but regional max 4th highest daily max 8-hour ozone concentration in 2020 is ≤ 0.070 ppm) – The region can get up to two extension of the attainment deadline depending on data in 2020 and 2021. However, in case of nonattainment after these extensions, the region may be reclassified to a higher nonattainment level and may need to submit a 15% Reasonable Forward Progress (RFP) plan, attainment SIP, and additional requirements might be due within a short period of time.
3. Case 3 (Nonattainment; regional max 4th highest daily max 8-hour ozone concentration in 2020 > 0.070 ppm) - The region would be bumped up to moderate nonattainment area and would need to fulfil requirements described in case 2 above.
4. Case 4 – (Reach attainment but revert to nonattainment status in future years) - This would complicate planning unless future emissions reductions bring ozone level down below NAAQS. The submittal of a redesignation request/maintenance plan with contingency measures to avoid going back to nonattainment is an option.

Ram suggested to add an ozone monitor map for the region and removing the case 4 for the MWACQ meeting presentation. He also suggested to add a reference to state air agencies for monitoring data. Members asked COG staff to send then the draft MWAQC slides after they have been finalized by staff in coordination with DOEE.

3. Update on Base Year Emissions Inventory

Sunil Kumar discussed the status of the base year 2017 emissions inventory. Point source inventory was supplied by the District and Virginia and awaited from Maryland. States agreed to use draft emission data submitted to EPA by November 1, 2019 for the base year 2017 submittal. MWAQC staff developed nonroad emissions (except for MAR) for all jurisdictions for the ozone season day analysis for VOC, NO_x, and CO emissions for nonroad sources for the base year 2017. TPB staff was in the process of developing emissions for all jurisdictions for the ozone season day analysis for VOC, NO_x, and CO emissions for on-road sources for the base year 2017. This is expected to be completed by the end of September. Event data from the final EPA NEI2017 effort will be available by the mid-September and will then be included in the inventory. MWAQC staff started working on the document, which will have an ADA compliant format as required by Virginia. It will follow the same format as the previously submitted base year 2011 inventory for the 2008 ozone NAAQS.

Ram mentioned that DOEE needs to submit a draft base year inventory document with a summary of methodologies to EPA to meet its “early engagement” commitment by the end of 2019.

4. Comparison of MOVES2014a vs MOVES2014b Emissions for Washington, DC Region

Joseph Jakuta from DOEE presented a comparative study of nonroad emissions developed by MOVES2014a and MOVES2014b modes for the Washington region jurisdictions for 2011 and 2014. Nonroad NO_x emissions varied between -7% to 47% for the two models depending on the jurisdiction for 2011. The same varied between 4% to 56% for 2014. NO_x emission from diesel construction and mining equipment was the largest emission source in all jurisdictions. This source category along with gasoline powered 2-stroke lawn and garden equipment was also the largest source for PM_{2.5} emissions in all three jurisdictions.

5. State & Local Updates

Brian said Maryland is working on a proposal to ban HFCs and a rule on methane. Virginia did not have any updates. Ram said that the regional haze SIP was up for public review. He also said that the District was getting ready for grants and other things ready for the VW settlement. Joseph added that the District was working on the 2015 ozone standard infrastructure SIP.

6. Adjourn

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.