

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
May 8, 2018, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Present:

Cecily Beall, District Department of Energy & Environment
Ram Tangirala, District Department of Energy & Environment
Alexandra catena, District Department of Energy & Environment
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Brian Hug, Maryland Department of the Environment
Alex Brun, Maryland Department of the Environment
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Regina Moore, Virginia Department of Transportation
Tina Casey, District Department of Transportation
Kary Snyder, Maryland Department of Transportation
Malcolm Watson, Fairfax County
Mike Lake, Fairfax County
Stan Edwards, Montgomery County
John Kinsman, Edison Electric Institute

Staff:

Stave Walz, COG DEP
Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP
Jen Desimone, COG/DEP
Jeff King, COG/DEP
Jane Posey, COG/DTP
Dusan Vuksan, COG/DTP
JC Park, COG/DTP
Erin Morrow, COG DTP
Ron Milone, COG DTP

1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary

Cecily Beall called the meeting to order at 10 am. The April 10th meeting summary was approved without any changes.

2. Ozone Season Summary

Sunil Kumar presented the summary of the ozone season thus far. There has been only one code orange day in the season as of May 8th, which was influenced by both local and transported emissions. Stan Edwards informed the group that the regional wind power purchase program was discontinued in the Montgomery county.

3. “What Can We Do” Measures

Sunil discussed the revised version of the “What Can We Do” analysis document. He mentioned that the changes relate to both format and content of the document. He requested inputs on the format issues related to the summary table in the document. Steve described the basis for deciding the priority level. Kary Snyder asked if the political feasibility for the

implementation of the proposed control measures has been considered in deciding the priority level. Sunil said the political feasibility is based on COG staff's judgement and members would need to be provide their inputs on this. Steve requested members to provide their inputs by May 14. Cecily Beall asked about the main purpose of the document. Steve said that it is a guidance document for states and locals.

4. Draft MWAC FY 2019 Work Program & Budget

Jen Desimone discussed the draft MWAQC FY 2019 work program & budget. Ram asked about the anti-idling campaign. Jen said at least \$50,000 would be needed to start the campaign. Jen informed the group that she has revised the allocation of funds from tasks not requiring as much work to the task related to local measures and is ready to change again depending on the feedback from members. Ram asked about the carry over fund from the previous year. Jen said that she does not have a good estimate as not all funds for FY 2018 have been received. Cecily said this needs to be addressed soon. Ram outlined three important tasks for this budget - baseline emissions inventory, anti-idling, and the WCWD project. Regarding the task for MWAQC's strategic planning, Ron Milone suggested incorporating what other MPOs and states are doing in their strategic planning efforts.

5. A. 2015 Ozone NAAQS Designation

Sunil discussed EPA's final designations for the 2015 ozone NAAQS. There is no change in the list for the nonattainment area counties and cities from the 2008 ozone NAAQS. Also, the nonattainment level is marginal, which is the same as the 2008 ozone NAAQS. Cecily said that earlier the baseline year for the 2015 ozone NAAQS seemed to be 2016, but now 2017 also seems to be under consideration. Ram said since the submittal date for the NEI is most likely February 2019, 2017 seems unlikely as the baseline year submittal date is August 2020. Jane Posey informed the group that 2021 being the attainment year for the 2015 ozone NAAQS, it will be added to the transportation conformity analysis.

5. B. Proposed EPA Rule for Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science

Sunil discussed EPA's proposal to strengthen transparency in regulatory science. Ram said that a number of entities have expressed concern that EPA is diluting the process in the garb of transparency. Another comment is to extend the deadline. Ram suggested developing a general letter expressing concerns and requesting to extend the deadline for MWAQC. Doris said she would like to get in touch with Tom Ballou before saying anything on the letter. Brian said he supports a general letter. Steve said that COG staff will develop a draft letter and send it to the group for inputs.

5. C. EPA's Appeal to Reconsider Court Decision Regarding 1997 Ozone NAAQS Revocation

Sunil discussed EPA's recent appeal to reconsider the Court's decision to reinstate the 1997 ozone NAAQS in South Coast vs EPA case.

6. State & Local Updates

None of the jurisdictions had any updates.

7. Adjourn

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.