MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Summary May 6, 10 AM to 10:50 AM

Present:

Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Emily Bull, Maryland Department of the Environment
Henry Frishman, District Department of Energy & Environment
Jennifer Roelke, Maryland Department of the Environment
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation
Melissa Atwood, City of Alexandria
Naomi Cohen-Shields, District Department of Transportation
Regina Moore, Virginia Department of Transportation
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Thomas Foster, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Virginia Burke, Maryland Department of Transportation
Antoinne Thompson, GWRCCC
Liam Payne, GWRCCC
Greg Becoat, EPA Region 3

Staff:

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP Alissa Boggs, COG/DEP Dusan Vuksan, COG/DTP Jeff King, COG/DEP Jen Desimone, COG/DEP Jinchul Park, COG/DTP Leah Boggs, COG/DEP Mark Moran, COG/DTP Robert d'Abadie, COG/DTP Tim Masters, COG/DEP Wanda Owens, COG/DTP

1. Call to Order & Review of Meeting Summary

Doris McLeod chaired the meeting in absence of Joseph Jakuta. She called the meeting to order at 10 AM. The April 8th meeting summary was approved without any changes.

2. Ozone Season Summary

Sunil Kumar briefed members on the 2025 ozone season air quality data. There has not been any ozone or PM2.5 exceedances this year until May 31. In a query from Jim Ponticello, Sunil informed the committee that the final EPA design values are expected to be available in July/August.

3. 2015 Ozone NAAQS RR/MP Inventory

Sunil Kumar briefed members on the status of emissions inventories for all sources for the redesignation request/maintenance plan.

Point: Maryland plans to develop its own point source data. They are fine with using nonpoint and MAR data in EPA's EMP dataset. Virginia will use ERTAC data. For NEGU, Virginia may use either ERTAC or develop its own inventory for future years. The District is fine with ERTAC but needs to check.

Nonpoint & MAR: Virginia will be collaborating with MARAMA staff to get OSD ratios for

developing OSD emissions from annual emissions.

Nonroad & Onroad:

MWAQC staff received most MOVES5 input and is waiting for the remaining ones. Staff will QA/QC once they get all of them.

4. Final Rule ON DAAD, CDD, and EE Waiver

Sunil Kumar briefed members on the final EPA rules published on Determination of Attainment-by-Attainment Date (DAAD), Clean data Determination (CDD), and Exceptional Events (EE) Waiver. These rules became effective on May 5, 2025. Based on these rules, the Washington region became eligible for submitting the resignation request and maintenance plan for the 2015 ozone standard.

5. Updates

- A. 2025 ALA Report Sunil Kumar briefed members on the recently published 2025 report by American Lung Association on air quality. This report provides grades and ranks for ozone and 24-hour average fine particle standards based on the number of code orange and worse days while considering annual design value for the annual fine particle standard. This report didn't exclude Canadian wildfire influenced air quality data in 2023. A few jurisdictions in the Washington region got bad grades due to the different methodologies adopted and due to inclusion of wildfire affected data.
- B. Update To the Current Day Air Quality Forecast The Washington region forecasters made a change to the air quality forecast protocol. They added a provision to update forecasts issued the previous day for the current day in the morning if they see a chance of air quality going into code orange or worse that day and if forecast issued the previous day was for a lower level.

6. State and Local Updates

There were no updates for the District and Virginia. Maryland is continuing to work on developing point source emissions for the Redesignation request and maintenance plan.

Antoinne Thompson expressed gratitude to everyone who participated in the Earth Day Walking Great Expo, where information about air quality, clean transportation, environmental justice, and sustainability was shared. He highlighted the upcoming Environmental Justice Summit on June 17th at Howard University, which is free to attend and will feature panels, speakers, and discussions on various topics. He also mentioned the release of a fleet equity guide funded by the Environmental Defense Fund, which is available on their website. Lastly, he invited people to participate in their annual conference on October 23rd and encouraged those interested in being on a panel to reach out via email.