



**AMPO Air Quality Work Group Meeting
December 12-13, 2013
Atlanta Regional Commission
Meeting Summary**

AMPO's Air Quality Work Group met on December 12-13, 2013 in Atlanta, GA at the offices of the Atlanta Regional Commission. A list of participants is attached.

Day 1 – December 12

Welcome and Introductions

Rich Denbow and David D'Onofrio welcomed the Work Group participants. On behalf of AMPO and the Work Group, Rich thanked ARC for hosting the meeting,

EPA Update

Dianna Smith provided an EPA update. She discussed implementation milestones for criteria pollutants. EPA is scheduled to look at a new ozone standard in 2014. EPA promulgated the 2012 PM2.5 NAAQS rule in December 2012. Nonattainment area boundary recommendations from states and tribes are due to EPA on December 13, 2013. Final designations will take place in December 2014.

MAP-21 Update

Cecilia Ho provided an update on FHWA's MAP-21 implementation activities, especially for the CMAQ program. Ross Patronosky asked if FHWA will specify what constitutes a PM2.5 project under the CMAQ set aside. Cecilia said that is not likely. The CMAQ interim guidance is out for comment now. If anyone has comments related to guidance they should provide them to FHWA.

Cecilia said FHWA is also working on CMAQ case studies. For the CMAQ performance report requirement, one participant asked if the state or MPO will be responsible for meeting the requirement. Cecilia said the MPO will be responsible. For the 25% PM2.5 set-aside, Cecilia said the state or the MPO could be the responsible agency, depending on how the state operates their CMAQ program. Another participant asked if the CMAQ performance measure requirement will be only for MPOs over 1 million in population. Cecilia stated that MAP-21 says that it applies to MPOs in TMA's over 1 million. If there are multiple MPOs in that TMA they will each have to do it.

FHWA should have cost-effectiveness tables by Summer of 2014.

MOVES Implementation

Tracy Selin, Cambridge Systematics, gave a presentation on MOVES. She addressed running MOVES in inventory vs. rate mode. The Work Group discussed this further. Many existing SIPs contain on-road emissions and MVEB's that were calculated in rate mode. This makes it difficult to use MOVES in inventory mode. However, EPA designed MOVES to be used in inventory mode. David Kall, Cambridge

Systematics, discussed this issue further. Inventory mode provides a large time savings and provides a good level of aggregation.

The group discussed using MOVES for CMAQ analysis and aggregating MOVES emission rates for CMAQ. David D'Onofrio showed aggregation examples using an ARC calculator. The group discussed types of alternative fuel vehicles and developing emission rates for them to calculate emission benefits. Shelley Whitworth discussed efforts in Houston to classify trucks (drayage v. short haul) and to look at cold starts with van pools. They are finding that some of the newer drayage trucks are not being maintained and emit pollutants at levels close to those emitted from much older trucks.

EPA is close to a release date for the next version of MOVES, MOVES2014. This will be released after the final Tier 3 rule is promulgated in early 2014. This will start a new grace period for when the model is required for conformity analysis and SIP work.

Day 2 – December 13

2008 Ozone Standard and PM2.5 Standard Update

The Work Group reported on activity to implement the 2008 ozone standard and PM2.5 designations. BMC is pushing hard at the state level for PM2.5 controls. Mike Conger said he is seeing a large increase in vehicle age with the latest vehicle registration data. NCTCOG said they saw similar changes during their last round of conformity.

Elena Constantine said her region submitted a PM2.5 maintenance plan, with milestone budgets. They found that the vehicle fleet age is changing, due to the weak economy and the durability of cars. ARC said they set a safety margin in the SIP and budget to account for these types of changes. Ross added that CMAP has a safety margin of about 15%. These are beginning to be eroded. In many areas, the cushion for attainment in the overall inventory is coming from the on-road sector due to fleet turnover to newer cars and cleaner fuels. Harold Brazil stated that emissions have declined with the economic downturn. He added that MTC switched from a four step model to an activity-based model, with no significant difference in emission estimates.

Ross stated that the CMAP region completed an ozone SIP using MOVES so they have a MOVES-based MVEB. Jenny Narvaez reported that the Dallas region is holding at 87 for their design value. Shelley stated that Houston is classified as Severe under the 1997 ozone standard and marginal under the 2008 ozone standard. This results in the region having two attainment dates. The state is looking at data to demonstrate that Saharan dust storms and the drought are contributing to violations and without these events the region would be in attainment. Kip Billings said he is concerned about the increase in start emissions with the new MOVES model due to the way they are computed differently in MOVES than in MOBILE6.

Climate Change

Harold discussed work at MTC that looks at climate change planning at the local level. MTC assists jurisdictions with developing GHG inventories. They determined that they need a better method to estimate VMT and GHG emissions at the local scale, and as a result they developed a travel segmentation approach. He produced a map of the region that displays CO2 emissions per household. This is used as a visual approach to influence policy making. David added that ARC produced similar maps, as well as maps of household electricity use across the region. Sara Tomlinson said Maryland is using the EERPAT tool to analyze various strategies for reducing GHGs.

Jenny said that NCTCOG received a grant from FHWA to implement the INVEST tool and conduct a vulnerability assessment. Melissa Taylor said that Chattanooga held a climate change resiliency workshop that examined their transportation infrastructure.

Other Issues

The Work Group discussed project level conformity and hot spot analysis. Only a few MPOs are engaged in project level analysis. Harold discussed the process at MTC. David discussed efforts in the Atlanta region.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00.

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Participant	MPO	Email
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