

**Summary**  
**TWG Quarterly Meeting**  
**2 February, 2012**  
**10:00am - 12:30pm**  
**TxDOT, 200 E. Riverside Drive, Bldg. 200, Classroom “A” Austin, Texas**  
**(and by VTC at TxDOT District Offices)**

**A. Introductions & Announcements**

Self introductions were made and attendees signed-in. There were 14 TWG members in attendance along with 14 additional participants via VTC from TxDOT district offices in Beaumont, Dallas/Fort Worth, Houston, El Paso, Tyler, San Antonio, and Waco.

**B. Agency Information & Updates**

**EPA (Jeff Riley)**

- **State SIP (updates regarding the implementation of the 2008 ozone standard)** — Jeff Riley reported that on December 20, EPA published its response to the state’s 2008 ozone designation recommendations. Riley reported that the public comment period has been extended to February 3. Riley reported that the states have until February 29 to provide the formal responses to EPA’s response as part of the designation process.

Riley reported that the proposal for the designation rule—the **first** portion of the 2008 ozone implementation regulations—is currently at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and is anticipated to be shortly released. Riley noted that it was a high priority and expects it to be quickly reviewed and released.

Riley reported that the SIP requirements rule—the **second** portion of the 2008 ozone implementation regulations—is anticipated to be proposed this spring. Riley noted that he may have more information on this for the next TWG quarterly meeting (May 3, 2012).

Margie McAllister asked if EPA was still planning on finalizing the transportation rule when they finalize designations. Riley responded that this was correct.

Andrew Hoekzema asked that if there was a delay and the designations did not occur by April 30, if EPA would use 2011 monitoring data. Riley

responded that he was not aware of a firm answer to that question, but that EPA did have a consent decree that was established on December 21 that EPA must take final action on the designations by May 31. Riley further replied that his sense was EPA wanted to do everything they could to finalize by April 30, as it makes the situation easier in regards to using 2008-2010 data.

Jackie Ploch and Graciela Lubertino asked for an update on extending the grace period for MOVES. Riley responded that it was out of OMB review and is back with EPA. Riley noted that EPA and OTAQ are hoping to move quickly with the original grace period expiring at the end of March.

- **PM 2.5 NAAQS standard** — Jeff Riley reported that EPA originally proposed looking at a new standard in December 2010, and finalizing by August 2011. Riley reported that doing so would have kept with EPA's standard five-year maximum review period as the last time the standard was revised was 2006. Riley continued that by fall 2010, this date was bumped back to looking at the proposal on February 2011, and finalization by November 2011. Riley reported that this date was pushed back as well, and on November 16, 2011, EPA was petitioned by 10 states and several advocacy groups to complete their review of the PM standards. The groups were working towards a revised timeline to propose a rule by February 15, 2012, with a finalization of September 15, 2012. Riley reported this would be a possible revision of the PM standards.

Riley reported that EPA had recently made a court filing to plan to propose PM NAAQS on June 2012, with a finalization of June, 2013.

Other topic: Andrew Hoekzema asked if Jeff Riley knew when MOVES2010-B was coming out. Riley replied that he did not know, but would check into it.

**FHWA — (NOTE: Jose Campos was unable to attend the meeting. Shundreka Givan issued FHWA status reports)**

- **CMAQ reporting progress and needs** — Shundreka Givan reported that FHWA's deadline for CMAQ reports to be approved and submitted to headquarters is March 1. Givan reported that Beaumont has submitted their report to headquarters, and Dallas/Fort Worth is working towards their submittal.
- **CMAQ funding estimates for new nonattainment areas** — FHWA had nothing to report at this time.
- **Reauthorization status** — FHWA had nothing to report at this time.

- **GHG update** — Givan reported that there is a new tool available to assist State transportation agencies with analyzing greenhouse gas reduction scenarios and alternatives. The Energy and Emissions Reduction Policy Analysis Tool (EERPAT) was developed to allow agencies to quickly assess policy interactions in hundreds of scenarios. Many States were seeking a way to do this type of analysis, but lacked the tools to do so. EERPAT was developed to fill this gap. The EERPAT website includes a User's Manual and the Technical Documentation for the Tool. The Tool can be found at the following website: [http://www.planning.dot.gov/FHWA\\_tool/default.asp](http://www.planning.dot.gov/FHWA_tool/default.asp).
- **Regionally significant project update** — FHWA had nothing to report at this time.

#### **TxDOT TPP (Janie Temple)**

- **Conformity updates and issues** — TxDOT had nothing to report at this time.
- **Frequency of TWG meetings** — Janie Temple reported that TxDOT is exploring the possibility of reducing the number of TWG meetings a year. Temple explained that this year's contract required us to meet four times, but that she and Laura Norton have been reviewing the contract for options on reducing next year's meeting. Temple and Norton are going to draft an e-mail for Chris Sasser to send out to TWG polling them on the general consensus of frequency of meetings.
- **Conformity requirements for new nonattainment counties (per NCTCOG)** — TxDOT had nothing to report at this time.

#### **TxDOT ENV (Jackie Ploch)**

- Jackie Ploch reported that she and Michelle Meaux (CAMPO) are organizing MOVES and conformity training scheduled for February 28 - March 1 2012 at the TxDOT Austin District, Building 7. CAMPO-TxDOT are hosting the EPA-FHWA training. For more information, please contact [Jackie Ploch](#) or [Michelle Meaux](#).

#### **TCEQ (Margie McAllister, Heather Evans)**

- Margie McAllister reported that TCEQ responded to the Federal Register Notice offering the public comment period for EPA's proposed designation

for non-attainment areas. Contact [Margie McAllister](#) if you need a copy of the letter.

- McAllister provided TCEQ SIP updates (handouts) to TWG.
- Andrew Hoekzema asked if TCEQ was beginning to work on an infrastructure SIP for the 2008 ozone standard. Heather Evans replied yes, and that it is in the early development stages.
- Chris Kite reported that older documentation currently stored on TCEQ's dropbox will be deleted in the future. Kite recommended visiting the site and downloading any needed documentation.

### **TTI (Dennis Perkinson)**

- Dennis Perkinson reported that TTI continues to provide GHG emissions estimates upon request.

### **MPO Issues & Requests Needing TWG Discussion**

- Abilene — Abilene had no representatives at this time.
- BPA— Beaumont had nothing to report at this time.
- DFW — NCTCOG reported that they are working on their next conformity schedule.
- ELP— Isele Perez reported that El Paso is working on pre-consensus and conformity is underway.
- HGB—Graciela Lubertino reported that Houston has an upcoming conference call related to conformity and that that their green house gas project is finished.
- Austin — Austin had nothing to report at this time.
- Corpus Christi— No representatives at this meeting.
- San Antonio— San Antonio had nothing to report at this time.
- Tyler / Longview— Dale Booth reported that at FHWA's request they have initiated action to get a regional toll analysis in place for Smith and Gregg Counties, and that it would include an air quality component. Booth reported that NCTCOG had provided them with guidance, and that they may seek help from TWG in the future.
- Victoria— No representatives at this meeting
- Waco/Temple/Killeen— Temple/Killeen reported that they would like to remain in TWG for informational purposes.
- Texoma (Sherman/Denison/Paris) — No representatives at this meeting.
- Brownsville— No representatives at this meeting.
- Texarkana— No representatives at this meeting.

**D. Follow-Up Actions** (Perkinson, Sasser)

- Shundreka Givan will send Chris Sasser information about the Energy and Emissions Reduction Policy Analysis Tool.
- Janie Temple or Laura Norton will contact Chris Sasser about polling TWG regarding the frequency of TWG meetings.
- Chris Sasser will prepare a summary of today's meeting.

**E. Next TWG Meeting: *Thursday, May 3, 2012, TxDOT, 200 East Riverside Drive, Classroom A, Austin, Texas* and by VTC at TxDOT District offices.**