

Summary
TWG Quarterly Meeting
5 May, 2011

10:00am – 12:30pm

TxDOT, 200 E. Riverside Drive, Bldg. 200, Classroom “E” Austin, Texas
(and by VTC at TxDOT District Offices *as requested in advance to Laura Norton*)

A. Introductions & Announcements

Self introductions were made and attendees signed-in. There were 18 TWG members in attendance along with 18 additional participants via VTC from TxDOT district offices in Beaumont, Houston, Dallas/Fort Worth, El Paso, Tyler, Paris, San Antonio and Waco.

B. Primary Discussion Items

Roundtable discussion on the implementation strategy for MOVES

Dennis Perkinson with TTI began the discussion by noting that there appeared to be a fairly substantial consensus that ultimately agencies and organizations are going to have to adjust or redo budgets using MOVES to successfully demonstrate conformity.

Jeff Riley with EPA commented on the grace period for MOVES. Riley reported that OTAQ is working on the development of a rulemaking to extend the original two-year grace period that started March 2, 2010. Riley reported that there was a strong likelihood that it would not be extended by over 12 months. Riley reported that a reasonable expectation at this point would be an extension to March 2, 2013. Riley remarked that this date would probably be the wisest time frame to base any planning and deadlines.

Dennis Perkinson asked if the group could assume with reasonable confidence that the deadline would be extended, and Riley responded that with the amount of effort being spent towards this issue, that there would most likely be an extension. Riley further explained that there was a fair amount of interest and support in trying to get that extension passed for implementation of the updated ozone standard stretched out longer. But there was a general reluctance to do that based on previous experience with revised ozone standards.

Chris Kite with TCEQ asked for clarification that if the deadline was extended to March 2, 2013, that would mean if the conformity analysis was started March 1, 2013, with MOBILE6, it could continue after that (with MOBILE6 provided that it began before the March 2, 2013 deadline). Jeff Riley confirmed that was correct.

Jeff Riley commented that in the next month or so, EPA Region 5 is going to be putting forward some of the SIP revisions for maintenance areas to focus on getting those budgets put in place. Riley reported that the approach was going to be dealing with the maintenance area that had monitored clean air data. Riley reported that the goal is to take the on-road portion of emissions and recalculate what that is going to look like with MOVES. The purpose of this is to have a representation of what the adjustment from MOBILE6 to MOVES was. Riley further explained that in a case like that, you are not trying to balance the various source categories into meeting certain attainment levels. A maintenance area that has already made its attainment level, so in this case you are just reconfiguring to get a different representation.

Jeff Riley commented that for areas such as Houston and Dallas, it would be a matter of figuring out what can be done for generating MOVES numbers and comparing them with source categories with the understanding that there are going to be some difficulties in showing attainment for those areas. But the purpose is just to see where you're at with attainment and start talking about strategies and solutions with OTAQ.

Dennis Perkinson asked if the adjustment for the maintenance areas was to their budget, base, or to the estimates they have demonstrated. Jeff Riley replied that it was for the base year so that you had a representation of the maintenance period with MOVES. Perkinson responded that basically they are demonstrating the same declining trend with MOVES, rather than MOBILE, so they are less concerned with absolute values.

Chris Kite with TCEQ then led a discussion on the necessary adjustments to SIP and revised policy guidance related to MOVES.

Cathy Stephens with CAPCOG asked how TCEQ set levels so that it's more consistent with what MOVES would show. Chris Kite replied that for the new areas that are currently in attainment, but would probably be in non-attainment at some point in the future, that all the numbers would be MOVES numbers and not to worry about the comparison.

Peter Bella with AACOG asked Chris Kite to run through a scenario in which near non-attainment areas are declared moderate. Kite replied that if you were declared moderate, then your attainment date would be six years from that day (you were declared moderate). Therefore in three years when you submit your SIP to the EPA, your target date for attainment is three years from that point.

Chris Kite summarized the discussion by recommending that MPOs do not perform SIP quality travel demand model based inventories too soon. Kite recommended taking the day the SIP is to be adopted and back up six months and that's the proposal date. Then back up a year and that's when the technical work is to be done. Then back up another six months (18 months from adoption), there's an 18-24 month window when you should

develop your future case inventory. Then make your best case baseline about 24-36 months prior to adoption.

Cathy Stephens asked if there was a need for the collection of additional data for MOVES. Dennis Perkinson replied that they were able to produce credible, useable MOVES inventories with what they currently have, and are in the process of working out the priorities for additional data they would like to have.

The group had a roundtable discussion on the role of extended idling in the conformity process related to MOVES. The discussion centered on categorizing some of the things that are in the vehicles emissions budget—specifically the extended idling on off-network facilities such as ports and truck rest areas.

NOTE: It was decided that this topic would be included as an agenda item in the June TWG Advisory Committee meeting.

C. Agency Information & Updates

EPA (Jeff Riley)

- EPA GHG Reporting Rule update — Jeff Riley referenced an update forwarded to the TWG by Chris Sasser on May 2, 2011. Riley reported the e-mail was a notice that EPA is currently working on technical guidance for development of emissions report for greenhouse gases for metros. The two documents they made available are an evaluation of the effectiveness of travel efficiency strategies and a catalog of TCMs that have been implemented across the country.
- State SIP— Jeff Riley had no updates at this time. **NOTE:** This topic will be removed from future agendas.

FHWA – (Jose Campos)

NOTE: Shundreka Givan attended the meeting in place of Jose Campos. She will provide updates to the following agenda items.

- CMAQ reporting progress and needs
- CMAQ funding estimates for new nonattainment areas
- Reauthorization status
- GHG Update
- Regionally significant project update

TxDOT TPP (Janie Temple)

- Conformity updates and issues (Janie Temple) – Janie Temple reported that the NCTCOG conformity was in and underway and going well with no issues.

TxDOT ENV (Jackie Ploch)

Jackie Ploch reported that the Texas specific drive cycles project was about to begin.

TCEQ (Margie McAllister)

NOTE: Margie McAllister was unable to attend the meeting.
SIP Updates – Heather Evans reported that they were on schedule to have the Dallas SIP go before the commissioners in June (the proposal for the reclassification).

TTI (Dennis Perkinson)

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

MPO Issues & Requests Needing TWG Discussion (*if any*)

- BPA— Beaumont had nothing to report at this time.
- DFW – Madhu Venugopal reported that they are working on their conformity and emissions inventory.
- ELP— El Paso had nothing to report at this time.
- HGB—Houston had nothing to report at this time.
- Austin — Cathy Stephens reported that they are gearing up for their next work plan update. Stephens commented that they are trying to get a good feel for staffing needs from current non-attainment areas. They want to be able to anticipate the need for planning purposes.

NOTE: Chris Sasser is going to poll the MPOs regarding this issue.

Andrew Hoekzema reported that he, Bill Gill (Capitol Area Planning Co.) and Cathy Stephens advise the Clean Air Coalition of Central Texas, a group of local elected officials who oversee our voluntary ozone program. They submitted a letter to EPA requesting that EPA consider using the general subpart 1 implementation for the new ozone standard rather than the usual marginal/moderate/serious/extreme classification system. They received a response saying the EPA would consider their request.

- Corpus Christi—No representatives at this meeting.
- San Antonio— Nicholas Page with San Antonio reported that they asked EPA to look at the plus and minuses of subpart 1 and 2. The EPA responded that they would take this into consideration.
- Tyler / Longview— Tyler had nothing new to report at this time.
- Victoria— No representatives at this meeting
- Waco— Waco reported that they had nothing to report at this time.
- Temple/Killeen— Temple/Killeen had nothing to report at this time.
- Texoma (Sherman/Denison/Paris) — Sherman/Denison/Paris had nothing to report at this time.
- Brownsville— No representatives at this meeting
- Texarkana— No representatives at this meeting

D. Follow-Up Actions (Perkinson, Sasser)

- Chris Sasser will poll TWG on behalf for CAMPO for information on staffing needs for potential non-attainment areas.
- Andrew Hoekzema and Nicholas Page will send their EPA letters and responses to Chris Sasser for TWG distribution.
- Chris Sasser will distribute the meeting summary.

E. Next TWG Meeting: *Thursday, August 4, 2011, TxDOT, 200 East Riverside Drive, Classroom TBD, Austin, Texas* and by VTC at TxDOT District offices. Please advise us as soon as possible if you wish to attend by VTC.