

Summary
TWG Quarterly Meeting
3 November, 2011
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 17 additional participants via VTC from TxDOT district offices in Beaumont, Dallas/Fort Worth, Houston, El Paso, Tyler, San Antonio, Sherman/Denison/Paris, and Waco.

B. Primary Discussion Items

Roundtable discussion on the new developments regarding the ozone standard and the implications for areas in Texas. (EPA, Jeff Riley)

Jeff Riley opened the discussion with a summary of the recent developments regarding the ozone standard. Riley reported that at the beginning of September, the President announced that he asked Administrator Jackson to withdraw the reconsideration of the 2008 ozone standard. Riley reported that there was work being done on the “2011 ozone standard,” but that had been withdrawn as well, and EPA was moving forward on implementing the 2008 standard; the 75ppb standard.

Riley reported that EPA is currently developing initial recommendations for area designations. The intended timeframe for the finalization of the designations is April 30, 2012. Riley reported that the initial recommendations for nonattainment areas were made in March 2009.

Riley asked Margie McAllister to comment about TCEQs plans to revise those initial recommendations because of the amount of time that has passed, and the fact that EPA is going to be using 2008-2010 design value data to make these designations.

McAllister responded that a revised designation letter is expected. **NOTE:** Chris Sasser forwarded the Governor’s letter to TWG on 11/8/2011. Contact [Chris Sasser](#) if you did not receive this e-mail.

Bill Gill (CAPCOG) asked if the reason for the April designation date was because the 2011 data was to be certified by May 1. Riley responded that there have been suggestions that was correct.

Dennis Perkinson asked to verify that we have the available data that is needed to make these decisions, and Riley confirmed this to be true.

Riley responded that there were some suggestions that for some areas where 2011 data was going to make a positive change, as far as making a difference in an area being designated a non-attainment versus attainment, that if an area was able to certify and complete its 2011 data to beat that April 30, 2012 timeframe, that data could be used. Riley also said that there have been discussions against this idea as to keep the process standardized.

Perkinson asked if it was possible to determine who was in or out—if it was the remaining 17 counties mentioned in the letter. Chris Kite (TCEQ) confirmed that the 17 counties were in the Dallas/Houston area.

NOTE: Riley sent Sasser supplemental materials related to this discussion that were forwarded to TWG on 11/9. Contact [Chris Sasser](#) if you did not receive this e-mail.

C. Agency Information & Updates

EPA (Jeff Riley)

- State SIP — Jeff Riley reported that on October 13, EPA Region 6 received a letter from David Brymer (TCEQ) that outlined their intended approach for revising the Houston area SIP to incorporate some MOVES-based motor vehicle usage budgets. EPA responded that their request was reasonable, and that they would be in coordination with TCEQ to move forward.

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 Chris Sasser had sent out a notice to MPOs to reply back if they did not have access to CMAQ. Givan reported that El Paso and Houston were in the database, and that FHWA was working to add Dallas and Beaumont so they have access to the system. Givan noted that FHWA has to submit a CMAQ annual report by March 1.

Givan requested that anyone with issues related to CMAQ, to please contact her at ['shundreka.givan@dot.gov'](mailto:shundreka.givan@dot.gov)

TxDOT TPP (Laura Norton)

- Conformity updates and issues — Laura Norton had no updates at this time.

TxDOT ENV (Jackie Ploch)

- Jackie Ploch had no updates at this time.

TCEQ (Margie McAllister, Heather Evans)

- Margie McAllister provided TCEQ SIP updates (handouts) to TWG.

TTI (Dennis Perkinson)

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

MPO Issues & Requests Needing TWG Discussion

- BPA— Beaumont had nothing to report at this time.
- DFW — NCTCOG reported that they are working for their next conformity, and the rough ozone season had their design value at 90. Margie McAllister asked about the timeline of their conformity. NCTCOG responded that they did not have a timeline, but would let her know when they did.
- ELP— George Pinal reported that El Paso will start conformity at the end of next year—before the end of the grace period.
- HGB—Graciela Lubertino reported that Houston is working on conformity and waiting for project selection.
- Austin — Michelle Meaux asked about MOVES training opportunities, and Jackie Ploch responded that she had not heard anything.
 - **NOTE:** On 11/14 Chris Sasser sent out an e-mail requested input for future training dates.
- Corpus Christi— No representatives at this meeting.
- San Antonio— San Antonio reported that they are still in attainment and monitoring a new energy development for its possible impact on ozone values.
- Tyler / Longview— Tyler had nothing to report at this time.
- Victoria— No representatives at this meeting
- Waco— Ed Kabobel reported that Waco’s design value was 70-73 ppb, and that they are doing a few tweaks to their emissions inventory.
- Temple/Killeen— No representatives at this meeting.
- Texoma (Sherman/Denison/Paris) — Texoma 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)

- Jeff Riley will send Chris Sasser materials related to the primary discussion.
- Chris Sasser will forward the Governor Perry letter to TWG.
- Chris Sasser will prepare a summary of today's meeting.

E. Next TWG Meeting: *Thursday, February 2, 2012, TxDOT, 200 East Riverside Drive, Classroom A, Austin, Texas* and by VTC at TxDOT District offices.