

Summary
TWG Quarterly Meeting
4 February, 2010

10:00 a.m. B 12:30 p.m.

TxDOT, 200 E. Riverside, Bldg. 200, Classroom “D” Austin, Texas
(and by VTC at TxDOT District Offices as requested in advance to Paul Tiley)

A. Introductions & Announcements

- Self introductions were made and attendees signed-in. There were 27 TWG members in attendance along with 16 additional participants via VTC from TxDOT district offices in Waco, Atlanta, Houston, Beaumont, San Antonio, El Paso and Tyler/Longview.

B. Primary Discussion Item

- **TxDOT Re-Organization – Regional Centers (Darcie Schipull, TxDOT)**
Darcie Schipull gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the TxDOT restructuring and creation of the Regional Centers. Darcie noted that there are four (4) Regions - North, South, East and West and that these are divided into two branches; Operations Support and Project Delivery Support. The reasons behind the restructuring include: greater efficiency, accountability and transparency. It is a goal of the newly formed Regions to be able to provide enhanced support to the Districts which in turn will allow the Districts to provide improved service. Performance measures will be put in place to provide guidance in reaching goals and objectives. In addition, it is anticipated that the creation of the Regions will lower operational cost thus allowing more funding to be available for projects. TxDOT has been working on preparing training workshops and establishing SOPs and SLA’s with the goal of having these rolled out to the Districts by April 2010.

A question and answer session followed the presentation with Darcie discussing how this restructuring would affect:

- Conformity - travel analysis input and possible future emissions modeling involvement
- CMAQ dollars – regional involvement along with districts in TIPs, long range planning and resource spending.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation including Flow Charts (TPP>Regions>Districts>MPOs) is included with this Summary and is also available on the TWG website under Meeting Resources/February 2010.

C. Agency Information & Updates

- EPA (Jeff Riley)
 - EPA revised ozone standards, and lawsuits updates - Jeff reported that the proposed rule lowering the 2008 8-hour average ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard was published in the Federal Register on January 19, 2010. There will be a 60 day public comment period, which will end on March 22, 2010. Public hearings were held in Arlington, VA and Houston, TX earlier this week and will be held today in Sacramento, CA. Audio files will be made available on EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/air/ozonepollution/actions.html#jan10s> It is still anticipated that the final ruling will come out by August 31, 2010. There were questions raised regarding potential classification approaches, monitoring and implementation rules and questions on the secondary standard (especially in rural areas) Jeff indicated that he would try to find out the answers to some of the questions regarding what EPA's approach will be. Several of the MPO's discussed getting together to prepare comments. Jeff Riley will pass on any additional information to assist the MPO's as soon as it becomes available. Margie McAllister mentioned that TCEQ had Dr. Michael Honeycutt's (TCEQ's Chief Toxicologist) testimony posted on its website at http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/comm_exec/communication/media/02-10HoneycuttEPA2-2

Margie inquired as to when the MOVES Rule Notice would be published. Jeff indicated that he anticipated a mid-summer release date. The two (2) year grace period will start effective this date of publication. There should be documentation included with the release that reviews guidance and implementation. (*** Note, on March 2, 2010 Jeff Riley provided the following post meeting comments:**

I'm sending along the announcement from EPA OTAQ that the MOVES2010 Federal Register Notice has been published as of today. I apologize for any confusion/concern in my mistakenly estimating during the February TWG meeting that its publication would be perhaps closer to this summer - OTAQ has done an admirable job in moving this notice along and getting it published.

"Today, EPA approved and announced the availability of MOVES2010 for state implementation plans (SIPs) and for certain transportation conformity analyses outside of California.. MOVES2010 is the state-of-the-art upgrade to EPA's modeling tools for estimating on-road emissions from cars, trucks, motorcycles, and buses, based on analysis of millions of emission test results and considerable advances in the Agency's understanding of vehicle emissions.

Today's notice also starts a two-year grace period before MOVES2010 is required to be used in new regional emissions analyses for transportation conformity determinations outside of California. EPA is not approving MOVES2010 for project-level transportation

conformity hot-spot analyses at this time; the Agency will approve the model for such analyses in the near future via a separate Federal Register notice when guidance for such analyses is finalized.

Today's FR notice is attached for your convenience.

Guidance on implementing MOVES2010 for SIP development, transportation conformity, and other purposes can be found online at:

<http://www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/policy.htm>. The MOVES2010 model and supporting materials can be found on the MOVES website: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/models/moves/index.htm>."

- EPA revised NO₂ standards update– Jeff reported that the final rule was announced January 22, 2010. The new one-hour standard for NO₂ was set at a level of 100 parts per billion (ppb). EPA also is retaining the existing annual average standard of 53 ppb. No areas in Region 6 would currently be considered non-attainment. Jeff reported that discussions are currently taking place regarding monitoring placement (urban areas with populations over 500,000). Jeff anticipated having more details at the next Quarterly Meeting scheduled for May 6th. For more information please see EPA's website <http://www.epa.gov/air/nitrogenoxides/> (*Post meeting notation, the Final Rule was published in the Federal Register on February 9, 2010).
- EPA Proposed GHG Reporting Rule update – Jeff reported that the GHG Reporting Rule became effective on 12/29/09. Beginning 1/1/10 suppliers of fossil fuels or industrial greenhouse gases, manufacturers of vehicles and engines and facilities that emit 25,000 metric tons or more of CO₂ equivalent per year are now being required to report GHG emissions data annually. Jeff will provide updates at the next Quarterly meeting if additional categories of emitters are added. For more information please see EPA's website on climate change: <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ghgrulemaking.html>
- FHWA (Jose Campos) -
 - CMAQ reporting progress and needs – Jose reported that most areas had completed their reporting of 2007. If anyone has any difficulty accessing the system please let Jose know. Beginning 4/1/10 there will be a new registration process and login requirement for security purposes.
 - CMAQ funding estimates for new nonattainment areas – Jose reported that he is working on an estimate, assuming the same funding levels and utilizing the same population ratios.

- Reauthorization status – Jose reported that the reauthorization is not complete – however they are working towards a resolution.
- ARRA Stimulus funding Update – Jose reported that approximately 80% of the ARRA 1 funds had been obligated and that they had until March 1st to disburse the remainder. Jose also discussed a possible ARRA 2 and mentioned that the MPO’s should make changes to TIPs and STIPs in anticipation, as the time frame will be tighter than ARRA 1.
- TxDOT TPP (Paul Tiley)
 - Conformity updates and issues, if any (Paul Tiley) – Paul Tiley reported the following updates: HGAC just completed their conformity, El Paso is working on theirs, and Beaumont is starting their modeling (looking at a summer conformity). Chris Klaus reported that NCTCOG is updating their 2030 plan.
- TxDOT ENV (Jackie Ploch)
 - SIP Workgroup - upcoming topics of interest to TWG - Jackie reported that she has been soliciting SIP Workgroup discussion topics and has received the following:
 - Implementation Schedules for MOVES, revised Ozone standards, CO₂
 - Requirements for N/A’s and possible classifications – MPO’s want to know what they are up against.

The next SIP Workgroup meeting is tentatively scheduled in May, following the TWG Quarterly Meeting. Jackie will share any updates with the TWG when she receives additional information.

- TCEQ (Margie McAllister)
 - SIP Updates – Margie McAllister handed out the SIP updates. The electronic version will be forwarded to Lisa for inclusion with the Summary notes and posting on the TWG website.
- TTI (Dennis Perkinson) –

Dennis Perkinson provided a MOVES update – see below under Other – MOVES update.

- **MPO Issues & Requests Needing TWG Discussion (*if any*)**
 - Beaumont/Port Arthur – Beaumont is working on theirs and has nothing new to report at this time.
 - Dallas/Ft. Worth – Chris Klaus reported that NCTCOG is working with the consultation partners in preparation for their next conformity. Chris also gave the TWG an update on their “Clean Contractor” Incentive Program, which is going to committee in March and is anticipated to undergo a one year pilot program. Chris confirmed that GHG are included in the clean contractor incentive program – as it targets multiple pollutants.
 - El Paso – George Pinal reported that they are working on their MTP, demographics and future work plan.
 - HGAC – Graciela Lubertino reported that HGAC just completed a conformity in December, and have posted new appendices on their website. They are awaiting their approval letter.
 - Austin – Cathy Stephens reported that Austin is working on their 2030 plan update, and hope to have a draft out by March with the final out by June. They are also performing emissions analyses to make sure they are in attainment. Cathy also reported that they are including GHG in their analyses. Reza Farzaneh (TTI Austin Office) asked to see Austin’s numbers and Cathy will forward these to Dennis Perkinson for distribution. It was also noted that NCTCOG has run some GHG figures and that these have been posted on their website.
 - Corpus Christi – No representatives at this meeting.
 - San Antonio – San Antonio has nothing to report at this time.
 - Tyler/Longview – Dale Booth wanted clarification on when the new N/A’s would have their first deadline, and it was discussed that the clock would start with the designations, so one year following would be August 2012.
 - Victoria – No representative at this meeting.
 - Waco – The TWG welcomed Waco - they are just beginning the process.

- **Other (All)**
 - MOVES update (Dennis Perkinson) – Dennis Perkinson reported that TTI is working with TCEQ and TxDOT to assist in making MOVES2010 operational. He noted that run time is longer in comparison to MOBILE. Dennis indicated that TTI is completing a comparison study utilizing HGAC’s data – and once complete, will have a better idea of what the sensitivities are and which parameters are especially important as far as data analysis. The TWG members expressed interest in additional MOVES training and Jose Campos concurred that it was a good idea. Jeff Riley will follow up on this to see whether another

workshop can be coordinated – including some more detailed hands on training.

- New Subcommittees (Paul Tiley) - Chris Klaus mentioned that a reclassification of the DFW area is likely which would lead to a new SIP. Due to the timing they may use MOVES rather than MOBILE6. This is something being discussed with the consultation partners. In being the first to go through the process, he would be interested in forming a MOVES subcommittee – so that ideas on the implementation could be shared and resolutions to problems worked through with the help of the group. Chris has shared with TCEQ a list of questions and potential issues, which he can forward to the rest of the TWG. It was suggested that a group of interested parties organize a MOVES conference call as a starting point. Paul Tiley will send out an email to gauge interest from both a technical and policy/schedule implementation stand point. If there is enough interest and ongoing discussion, this may lead to the formation of a MOVES subcommittee down the road. Paul Tiley will keep this as a topic for discussion with the current conformity subcommittee in the mean time.

- Webinar Survey – The TWG discussed holding future quarterly meetings via Webinar, and it was decided that it would be prudent to survey the members to see who would be interested in this approach. Lisa will send out a survey via email in the in the coming days.

D. Follow-Up Actions (Perkinson, Tiley)

- Darcie will forward t a copy of the PowerPoint presentation on Regionalization to Lisa for inclusion with this summary and posting on the TWG website.
- Jeff will follow up on some of the questions raised today regarding classifications and what the approach will be (similar to the 2008 standard?) and will let the TWG know if any additional information becomes available.
- Jeff will inquire into the possibility of setting up additional MOVES training workshops - preferably in a centralized location such as Austin.
- Cathy Stephens will forward Austin data on GHG's to Dennis Perkinson for forwarding to Reza Farzaneh.
- Lisa will send out a survey to the TWG regarding Webinar capabilities for future TWG quarterly meetings.

- VTC reservations for the May 6th Quarterly Meeting should be made to Heather Evans as soon as possible.

E. Next TWG Meeting: *Thursday, May 6, 2010, TCEQ, Building B, Room 201A and by VTC as scheduled in advance to Heather Evans.*