
SUMMARY

TWG Meeting

1 February, 2018

10:00am – 3:00pm

TCEQ

12100 Park 35 Circle, Bldg F, Rm 2210

Austin, TX 78753

Follow-up Actions from THIS MEETING

- **Kristi Holstead** will prepare a summary of this meeting and post on the TWG website.
- Holstead will post all presentations from this meeting.
- Holstead will work with the TWG members to develop the agenda for the May meeting.
- Holstead will work with the subcommittee chairs to develop topics to discuss for the May meeting.

Next Meeting

To Be Determined

Participants

There were 28 TWG members in attendance, and approximately 7 members attending via WebEx.

The meeting was led by **Laura Norton** and **Madhu Venugopal**. **Joe Zietsman** began the meeting by welcoming attendees to Austin and presenting an overview of the day. Attendees were then asked to introduce themselves.

Primary Discussion Items

Shannon Eggleston was unable to participate in the meeting. **Melissa Savage**, Director of the Center for Environmental Excellence with AASHTO, presented on Eggleston's behalf. Savage's presentation focused on AASHTO's overall committee structure and policy development, and provided an overview of the Center for Environmental Excellence.

Savage's presentation included:

- Non-profit organization with membership consisting of all state DOTs, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.
- Initially only covered highways, now AASHTO covers all modes (aviation, rail, highways, public transportation, water, and active transportation)
- Goal is to provide resources and support to all members
- The Center for Environmental Excellence began in 2002 as a partnership between AASHTO and the FHWA. The center's goal is to promote environmental stewardship and encourage innovative ways to streamline the transportation delivery process.

[View "AASHTO Presentation to TWG"](#)

[View "Inventory of Potential Administrative and Legislative Improvements"](#)

[View "White House Plan to Streamline Federal"](#) (Air quality related items, pages 12-13)

Steve Dayton, Technical Specialist, Implementation Grants Section (TCEQ), presented on the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust.

Dayton's presentation focused on the implementation Environmental Mitigation program and the funding that will be available from the VW program:

- Texas share of the Environmental Mitigation trust is \$209,000,000 (or more) based on the number of impacted VW vehicles
- November 21, 2017 – Texas filed to be a beneficiary of the funds.
- January 29, 2017 – Texas received official designation
- Funds must be spent within 10 years with up to 1/3 in the first year or 2/3 in during the first 2 years

Dayton's presentation provided a more in-depth overview of the funding and eligible mitigation actions that show the various funding by vehicle types.

[View "Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust"](#)

[View http://www.texasvwfund.org](http://www.texasvwfund.org)

(Break for lunch. The meeting resumed at 1:00.)

Discussion Items

Jenny Narvaez, Principal Air Quality Planner (NCTCOG) led a discussion about the following items:

- VIN Decoder – Narvaez stated they have been working on getting a VIN decoder for the entire state but have not had much success. Have not received any response from DMV.
- Status of PM3 CMAQ – All DOTs targets for emission benefits for projects funded by CMAQ are due by May 20th. Narvaez invited TWG members to get involved. NCTCOG is putting together different scenarios for potential methodologies and is working with TxDOT and TTI.
- CMAQ Database – 2017 report has come out. TxDOT needs the report by March 1, 2018.
- Conformity Calendar – On schedule for a November conformity determination driven by approval of SIP budgets effective 2 years ago.

TWG Subcommittees Breakout Sessions Updates

Near Nonattainment/Ozone Advance Subcommittee — Darcie Shipull

Shipull discussed the Rider 7 funds in the near non-attainment areas that do not have it at their disposal and to keep other local governments in the loop.

It was mainly San Antonio and CAPCOG areas in the discussion. They are both continuing to submit Ozone Advance Program initiatives to EPA.

Shipull reported that the committee also discussed San Antonio's extension and additional information that needs to be provided from the governor's office to the EPA by February 28th.

Shipull stated that the committee talked about upcoming presentations, such as TERP, that people could benefit from. It was mentioned that a TERP presentation and a presentation on the alternative fuel corridors could be provided at a future TWG meeting.

MOSERS Subcommittee — Chair: Madhu Venugopal

Venugopal stated that Holstead will be sending out an e-mail regarding potential dates for a one-day workshop to go over MOSERS Module 1 and Module 2.

The subcommittee discussed the algorithm factors. More LPGs and CNGs are being funded and MOVES does not have the capability to model the emission factors for these alternatives. Venugopal suggested that this might be something that could be added to MOSERS.

Venugopal mentioned that the committee also discussed the non-recurring congestion factor. A factor that NCTCOG uses for estimating incidents on the roadways to count that in the emission estimations. NCTCOG is going to be updating it. Venugopal stated that in a recent discussion it was mentioned that it would be good to use the data and test it on Dallas to see what the congestion factor is and expand it to other regions.

Agency Information & Updates

EPA (Jeff Riley)

Riley provided an overview on the following:

- NAAQS –
 - On November 26, 2017 the EPA issued the attainment of classifiable area designations for the 2015 Ozone NAAQS and that covered 85% of US counties. On December 22, 2017 the EPA sent out the 120 day letters to states and tribes outlining intended non-attainment areas/counties. Riley noted that if states wanted to submit 2015-2017 information must be

submitted by February 18, 2018. January 5, 2018 a Notice of Availability and Public Comment (30-day period) was published. The notice expires February 5, 2018. The purpose of the notice was to solicit input for interested parties (other than states and tribes).

- On January 19, 2018 the EPA Region 6 sent follow up letter to Gov. Abbott regarding the September 27, 2017 letter to EPA regarding Bexar county. The letter requested additional information by February 18, 2018.
- On January 19, 2018 the EPA filed in Federal Districts and Appeals courts for further justification for the April 30, 2018 date for completing the 2018 Ozone NAAQS designations.
- Court hearing is currently scheduled for February 22, 2018.
- Conformity –
 - Riley stated that they are working on updating the 2008 Ozone Transportation Conformity Guide to update it to the 2015 Ozone Transportation Conformity Guide. No specific timeframe has been given. Will need to be finalized by the April 30, 2018 timeframe. Riley also stated that the SIP requirements portion of the 2015 implementation would be close the same timeframe.
 - OTAQ is working on an update to the December 2012 PM Hotspot Analysis Frequently Asked Questions, specifically to update the 2012 PM2.5 considerations. This would also provide language clarifying for projects that may or may not require hotspot analysis.
- MOVES – EPA is working on a timetable for releasing the updated model. Riley mentioned that training opportunities will be in the Atlanta area but there is no date selected.

FHWA (Barbara Maley)

Jose Campos was unable to attend the meeting. **Barbary Maley** was unable to attend this section of the meeting.

TxDOT TPP

Field representative updates (Raymond Sanchez, El Paso; and Nick Page, NCTCOG)

Raymond Sanchez reported that Mr. Williams with the El Paso MPO indicated that he would be providing comments to TWG regarding traffic analysis and that information had been provided to **Andrew Birt** with TTI.

Nick Page reported that the NCTCOG work on the 20-45 plan would be opening for public comments in April or May with action starting in June (through November). Page stated that the Alamo Area MPO will not know until August 10, 2018. The MPO is also working 20-45 update in the Spring 2019 timeframe if they get a non-attainment designation in August.

Leanna Sheppard has returned to the Beaumont District. She provided **Peggy Thurin** with information for the meeting. Sheppard provided information regarding the unexpected ice storm that HGAC did not set up the teleconference with the conformity partners. They did conduct a follow up with FHWA. The year 2020 will be dropped from the conformity analysis. The website conformity documentation will be updated to reflect this information.

TxDOT ENV (Jackie Ploch)

Jackie Ploch reported on the NCHRP 25-55 "Quantifying the Contribution of Vehicle Emissions to Local Air Quality" and NCHRP 08-117 "Impact of Transformational Technologies on Land Use and Transportation".

[View "ENV Updated 02012018"](#)

TCEQ (Jamie Zech)

Ozone

2015 Standard Designations

On November 16, 2017, the EPA designated the majority of Texas as attainment/unclassifiable for the 2015 ozone standard with an effective date of January 16, 2018. On December 22, the EPA sent a letter responding to the state's recommendations for remaining area designations. The EPA intends to designate the current DFW and HGB ozone nonattainment counties as nonattainment for the 2015 standard (Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise AND Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller).

The EPA intends to designate all other areas in the state with complete information as attainment/unclassifiable, including El Paso County. In the December letter and in a follow-up letter dated January 19, EPA requested that any additional information concerning the state's recommendation be submitted to EPA for consideration by February 28. The letter specifically cited the San Antonio metro area.

2015 Standard SIP Work

Infrastructure and transport SIP revisions for the 2015 standard are due to the EPA by October 1, 2018. The TCEQ Executive Director has approved development for both, and the SIP revisions are scheduled for proposal at agenda in March and adoption in September.

Other SIP Work

Mobile

The Executive Director has approved development of a SIP revision to remove two sets of mobile source rules from the SIP: state anti-tampering rules and the LIRAP rules for Early Action Compact counties. The SIP revision would not repeal the rules but would only

remove the rules from the SIP. This SIP revision is tentatively scheduled for proposal at agenda in April and adoption in October.

Exceptional Event

On December 17, TCEQ received a letter from EPA Region 6 concurring with the El Paso ozone exceptional event for June 2015 that TCEQ submitted in 2016.

TTI (Madhu Venugopal)

Madhu Venugopal reported on the following:

- MOVES Utilities - When the recent MOVES was released it came with MySQL 5.7 and they are working on fixing the minor glitch in 5.7. Venugopal requested that users continue to use MySQL 5.6 until the glitch is repaired.
- MOVES Model – Next version is coming up next year (2019). There will be a number of changes. TTI is closely tracking the progress. Venugopal stated that before the release they will provide the list of changes to TWG.
- DMV Vehicle Registration Data Update – Venugopal will be providing a presentation regarding the DMV Vehicle Registration Data update at the next TWG meeting.

[View "EPA's Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator \(MOVES\): Future Plans and Data Needs" presentation](#)

• MPO's (For those in attendance) – Status & Updates

Jenny Narvaez with NCTCOG spoke regarding the new Air North Texas website and the Clean Air Corner blog.

[View "Air North Texas"](#)

[View "Clean Air Corner" blog](#)

[View "FHWA Vehicle Classification Matrix"](#)

Shelley Whitworth spoke regarding the issue SR technology on the diesel engines and if it is doing what it is supposed to be doing. Early studies suggest it is not working properly on vehicles not operating at highway speeds. Whitworth stated that when they are doing their CMAQ they are looking at how much time the vehicles are being used, their miles of operation, fuel consumption, and how the vehicles are being used.

(Meeting Concluded)