



Minutes for the STMPR Advisory Group Meeting Wednesday, March 14, 2007

1. Welcome and Introduction

Mr. Joe Cassmassi, Planning & Rules Manager, Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and presented a brief overview of the agenda for the meeting. There were no comments on the February meeting minutes.

2. AQMP Status and Update

Mr. Joe Cassmassi, Planning & Rules Manager, gave a summary on the revised emission inventories, attainment demonstration, and control strategies. Revised emission inventories by major category and agency were presented. Staff used all reductions provided by CARB's control strategies and developed additional measures to accelerate the reductions in order to meet the PM2.5 standards by 2014. The emission reductions required in 2014 were 203 tpd NOx (31% reduction), 59 tpd VOC (11% reduction), 24 tpd SOx (56% reduction), and 14 tpd PM2.5 (14% reduction). Staff relied on NOx-heavy control strategies to achieve 383 tpd NOx (76% reduction), and 116 tpd VOC (22% reduction) to meet the ozone standards in 2023. Mr. Cassmassi summarized the District's proposed mobile source measures and emphasized that we could not meet the PM2.5 standards without the use of District's additional mobile source measures, and we could not meet the ozone standards without the black-box measures. To facilitate discussion, staff proposed three policy options for public review. Policy #1 would utilize all of the Districts' mobile source measures to obtain an additional of 71 tpd NOx reduction. Policy #2 would require CARB to provide all reductions committed under the 2003 AQMP by 2014. Policy #3 would require the use of \$600 million per year for five years to obtain the reductions needed. The "bump-up" from "Severe 17" to "Extreme" for the South Coast air basin, and from "Serious" to "Severe 15" for the Coachella Valley is inevitable. Five regional hearings will be conducted and draft socioeconomic analysis will be released in April. The 2007 AQMP will be considered by the Governing Board for adoption in early May.

3. Update on Regional Modeling Analyses

Mr. Cassmassi summarized staff's efforts on finalizing the modeling for PM2.5, PM10, visibility and ozone. For PM2.5, final MATES-III data was used. Sandwich method was used to correct artifacts and estimate organic carbon. PM2.5 quarterly design values for Fontana, Los Angeles, Rubidoux were presented. Nitrate and sulfate were major contributors to PM2.5. Third and fourth quarters had highest concentrations. Annual average PM2.5 was estimated using SMAT. Baseline and controlled inventories for 2005, 2014 and 2020 were provided. Various stress tests were conducted to justify model performance. The 2014 predicted PM2.5 at different locations using CARB measures and district overlay were presented which showed attainment at all 8 stations with highest PM2.5 of 15 µg/m3 at Rubidoux. Several additional stations were simulated with PM2.5 annual maxima around 15 µg/m3 including Burbank, Fontana, Los Angeles. Several approaches were used to estimate the 24-hour average PM2.5 design data. The highest 24-hour design value occurred in Los Angeles at 55 µg/m3. Future year PM10 24-hour design concentrations for 2015 were estimated for the controlled scenario at 111 µg/m3 at Rubidoux.

For Ozone, staff evaluated 1-hour and 8-hour ozone for 2009, and 8-hour ozone for 2012, 2017, 2020 and 2023. Baseline and controlled inventories and meteorological data were provided. Observed and predicted design values at Crestline and Santa Clarita were presented. CEQA alternatives were simulated which showed that we would meet 80 ppb ozone utilizing 2007 control strategies. Projected 8-hour ozone concentrations were also presented for Coachella Valley attainment.

Staff proposed analyses that would enhance future modeling including, aircraft sampling along over water boundaries, improving surrogate data, evaluating WRAP as a tool, evaluating CB5 and new aerosol modules, evaluating weekend transportation model, using PAMS to reconcile inventory, improving sub-county mobile emissions profiles, considering selected critical traffic links, and conducting field program for speciated PM2.5.

4. Updated MM5 Simulations

Dr. Sang-Mi Lee, Air Quality Specialist, presented a sensitivity analysis on modifications to MM5 simulation specification to better model the air flow toward Santa Clarita areas. She proposed several suggestions including increasing surface drag, increasing soil layer moisture content, nudging observational wind field, and using 1-way nesting instead of 2-way nesting. Her suggestions resulted in an improved MM5 simulation of wind profiles toward Santa Clarita areas and basin-wide average temperatures. She also suggested a comprehensive study on surface and land use characteristics to further improve the MM5 simulation.

5. Closing Remarks/Scheduling Next Meeting/Adjourn

There being no additional public comments, Mr. Cassmassi adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:00 p.m.

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MEMBERS PRESENT

Ed Avol, University of Southern California
Carol Bohnenkamp, U.S. EPA
Shep Burton, Consultant
Ralph Morris, ENVIRON International Corp.

MEMBERS ABSENT

John DaMassa, California Air Resources Board
Bill Dennison, California Small Business Alliance
Rob Farber, Southern California Edison
Fereidun Feizollahi, California Air Resources Board
Jane Hall, California State University - Fullerton
Deng Bang Lee, Southern California Association of Governments
Steve Levy, Center for Continuing Study of the California Economy
Fred Lurmann, Sonoma Technology, Inc.
Rory MacArthur, Western States Petroleum Association
Paul Ong, UCLA School of Public Policy & Social Research
Karen R. Polenske, MIT Dept of Urban Studies & Planning
George Treyz, Regional Economic Models, Inc.

OTHERS PRESENT

John Billheimer, Enviro-Reality
Jonathan Nadler, Southern California Association of Governments

AQMD STAFF

Joe Cassmassi, Planning & Rules Manager
Bong Kim, Air Quality Specialist
Sang-Mi Lee, Air Quality Specialist
Laki Tisopulos, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer
Xinqui Zhang, Air Quality Specialist