



Minutes for the STMPR Advisory Group Meeting Wednesday, April 11, 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 March meeting minutes.

2. AQMP Status and Update

Mr. Joe Cassmassi, Planning & Rules Manager, gave a summary on the recent activities related to the 2007 AQMP. On April 30, staff would conduct a 3-agency study session with CARB and the U.S. EPA, which hopefully would resolve the differences between the three agencies on the approach for clean air. On March 29, the U.S. EPA had finalized its Final PM_{2.5} implementation Rule for the 1997 PM_{2.5} standards. The final rule reaffirmed the non-attainment classification of the area, and set the attainment date(s) by 2015.. An attainment date extension beyond 2015 is currently not available. The rule did not address the recently modified PM_{2.5} 24-hour standard. The CARB's latest proposal for off-road equipment was less aggressive than outlined in their draft plan, with slower turn-over and delayed compliance dates, resulted in 3.5 tons per day less NO_x reductions in 2014, and consequently created an increase in PM_{2.5} shortfall to 74 tons per day by 2014.

Staff conducted several meetings with peer-modeling reviewers, and many recommendations were received in the area of modeling, episode selection, estimation for organic carbon, impact of PM_{2.5} strategy on ozone attainment, evaluating observed trends to support control strategy development, and approach for interpolating or extrapolating regional air quality impacts. Staff planned to follow-up with remaining peers for their comments via phone. Socioeconomic analysis would be finalized by April 13, Regional Public Hearings would be conducted in April 17-19 and Public Hearing on May 4.

3. Health Benefits Assessment

District contractor, Leland Deck of Stratus Consulting, provided a summary of the Health Benefit Assessment portion of the Draft 2007 AQMP Socioeconomic document. He indicated the context of the consultant work was to estimate the health benefits of the 2007 AQMP. Premature mortality benefit and other health benefits were estimated based on "weighted average" information in the three study approaches, reported in year 2000 dollar, and were very similar to the approach that EPA experts used in their most recent health benefit assessment. STMPR Advisory members suggested the consultant not to use "weighted average", but quantify benefits based on each and all three studies, and present a range of benefits instead. It was also suggested that health benefits, especially premature mortality risks, should be quantified specifically for PM_{2.5}. The health benefit assessment for ozone was conducted in different scenarios, using different set of averaging time, 1-hour, 8-hour, 24-hour, and annual. State standard was used for the threshold for ozone, and health benefits were assessed for various years in 2014, 2020, and 2023.

4. Socioeconomic Analysis

Dr. Sue Lieu, Program Supervisor, Rule Development and Area Sources, gave a brief presentation on the draft socioeconomic analysis. She indicated that the socioeconomic analysis provided information on health benefits, visibility, benefits for congestion relief and materials and crops, as well as capital expenditures and annual O&M expenditures, job impacts by industry, occupation, race, ethnicity, and impacts at sub-county geography and impacts on competitiveness.

5. Closing Remarks/Scheduling Next Meeting/Adjourn

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

April 11, 2007 STMPR Advisory Group Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ed Avol, University of Southern California
Carol Bohnenkamp, U.S. EPA
Reza Mahdavi, California Air Resources Board
Ralph Morris, ENVIRON International Corp.
Karen R. Polenske, MIT Dept of Urban Studies & Planning
George Treyz, Regional Economic Models, Inc.
Frank Wen, Southern California Association of Governments

MEMBERS ABSENT

Shep Burton, Consultant
John DaMassa, California Air Resources Board
Bill Dennison, California Small Business Alliance
Rob Farber, Southern California Edison
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

OTHERS PRESENT

John Billheimer, Enviro-Reality
Leland Deck, Stratus Consulting
Julia Lester, ENVIRON International Corp.
Arnie Sherwood, UCB, ITS, SCAG

AQMD STAFF

Joe Cassmassi, Planning & Rules Manager
Elaine Chang, Deputy Executive Officer
Bong Kim, Air Quality Specialist
Sue Lieu, Program Supervisor
Laki Tisopoulos, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer
Jill Whynot, Planning & Rules Manager