

**Statewide Conformity Working Group
March 12, 2014 Draft Meeting Notes**

Introductions; housekeeping, agenda review:

ARB staffing changes; Cari Anderson to chair group. Caltrans to maintain web-site. Discussion of roster update. No changes

Public Comment:

No comments received.

Federal Updates including:

EPA Regulatory Update

- A couple of guidance documents have been completed: case studies for estimating emission reductions from Travel Efficiencies Strategies (Boston, Kansas City and Tucson), and new guidance for quantifying the benefits for diesel retrofits and commuter programs (using MOVES; will not impact EMFAC).

NAAQS Review Schedule Update

- 2008 Ozone standard implementation rule should be final Sept or Oct 2014. On Feb 3, the second drafts of the Health and Welfare Risk and Exposure Assessments and Policy Assessment for ozone were released; these documents are used when EPA evaluates revising the NAAQS. These documents were reviewed by the scientific panel (the Ozone Review Panel of the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee) that advises EPA on the ozone NAAQS during their meeting March 25 and 26. The primary health-based ozone standard is recommended in the draft PA to be lowered to somewhere in the range of 0.070 down to 0.060 ppm; the secondary welfare-base standard to 7-15 ppm. EPA plans to fully revoke the 1997 8-hour ozone standard for SIPs on the effective date of the final implementation rule, currently expected to be effective in October 2014.

Policy Assessment

http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/standards/ozone/s_o3_2008_pa.html

Risk and Exposure Assessments

http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/standards/ozone/s_o3_2008_rea.html

- The 2012 PM2.5 standard implementation rule proposal may be announced this fall 2014 and final by spring 2015.

Significant Litigation & Other Matters

- EPA filed a request to the DC Circuit for the court to issue a summary judgment on the ozone NAAQS review schedule. Enviro asked for a Dec 1, 2014 proposal and Oct 1, 2015 final. Under EPA's preferred schedule, EPA would propose by Jan 15, 2015 and finalize Nov 15, 2015 (45 days later).

ARB Updates including:

EMFAC 2011 news

- November 2013 update to PM2.5 Quantitative PM Hot-spot Guidance is available on EPA's project-level conformity website. EPA released revised guidance in November 2013 (EPA-420-B-13-053) to reflect California's latest approved emissions model, EMFAC2011, and EPA's 2012 PM NAAQS final rule. Reflects some changes in recommendations for looking at the results at specific receptors for PM.2.5.
- EPA held a 3-day training class in District 7, using EMFAC 2011 for PM Hotspot Quantitative analyses.

EMFAC 2013 update

- Todd Sax has been promoted to Assistant Division Chief of the Mobile Source Control Division. Vernon Hughes is now the new Chief of the Mobile Source Analysis Branch. ARB held a second workshop on EMFAC 2013 in October 2013, and the materials are posted on ARB's MSEI website. The Branch is currently regrouping on the model status and a schedule will be forthcoming

Caltrans Updates:

Conformity Status Table Update

- No changes since last meeting.

CA Sanctions Clocks list

- No changes since last meeting.

CT-EMFAC 5 (web link)

- EPA has not approved CT-EMFAC 5 for conformity purposes; agencies still must use EMFAC 2011.

CMAQ PM2.5 Weighting Factors

- Caltrans is interested in the NPRM comments from other agencies for the weighting factors for Map-21. Clarification that NPRM addresses federal funding only and does not impact current state law. NPRM for CMAQ weighting factors anticipated in July 2014.

Status of Air Quality & Transportation Planning:

MPO & Air District Status Discussion/2015 FTIP / Conformity status

- Agency needs with respect to transition to EMFAC 2011, particularly with respect to new off-model emission adjustments.

Sacramento: SACOG / SMAQMD

- Conformity analysis using EMFAC 2011 for 2013 FTIP / MTP 2035 out for public review now. Will be transitioning to 2015 FTIP. Have some pending SIPs with emission budgets and will be consulting with EPA on status / availability.

South Coast: SCAG/VCAPCD

- 2015 FTIP: Final Guidelines adopted; County transportation projects input received; Draft release in July 2014; Adoption in September 2014; and Federal approval needed by December 2014. 2016 RTP/SCS: Undertaking growth forecast local input process; Draft release in August 2015; Adoption in April 2016; and Federal approval needed by June 2016.
- South Coast Sanction Clocks: The sanction clocks due to partial disapproval of South Coast 1997 PM2.5 Standard SIP have been turned off; the sanction clocks due to EPA's withdrawal of its previous approval of South Coast VMT emission offset demonstrations are running.
- 2016 South Coast AQMP: SCAG has provided growth forecast and travel activity data to SCAQMD for developing emissions inventory.
- Imperial Air District: 2006 PM2.5 standard working on emission budgets, final 2016 AQMP data to south coast air district.
- Ventura Air District: is working on their 2008 8-hr Ozone plan, getting their emission inventory together and working on the RACT SIP.

Bay Area: MTC

- Last summer approved RTP/SCS - 2013 TIP and regional conformity analysis, which used EMFAC 2011. The 2015 TIP will rely on the previous conformity analysis and is anticipated to be available for public review at end of June 2014. The final conformity analysis for 2015 TIP should be approved by Sept. 2014.
- Bay Area Air district: is preparing a combined climate strategy/clean air plan to address the state air quality standard using EMFAC 2011.

San Diego: SANDAG/SDCAPCD

- Working on 2014 TIP and an initial draft conformity document anticipated to be reviewed in May 2014 by the CWG, releasing the draft for a 30-day public review by July 2014 and board taking action and approval by Sept. 2014 using EMFAC 2011. Working on the next RTP will merge RTP/RCP, start conformity document by Nov. 2014, release draft plan for public review in Mar. 2015, and the final plan by July 2015.

San Joaquin Valley: SJV/SJVAPCD

- All 8 MPOs are releasing 2014 RTP/SCS and 2015 FTIP, with corresponding conformity analysis (using EMFAC 2011) around Mar –April 2014 followed by adoption in June-July 2014.

Butte: BCAG

- Butte performed a conformity re-determination in June 2013 using EMFAC2011. 2015 FTIP – no update yet, RTP approval Dec. 2016

Information Sharing:

Transportation Conformity SIPs

- EPA reviewed terms of agreement to clear the SIP backlog. Agreement will be posted on CWG web-site for reference. EPA is working with ARB to begin to prioritize and address outstanding elements.

- ARB reviewed Draft handout regarding the transportation conformity SIP portion of the backlog. The handout was an initial ARB summary, subject to change as coordination with EPA continues; handout will be posted on CWG web-site for reference.
- The general ARB approach is to swap outdated submittals with updated / approvable revisions in an attempt to avoid potential disapprovals or portions of submittals remaining in the backlog. It would be a good idea for MPOs to consult with local Air Districts to evaluate how to proceed and develop a tentative schedule to move forward. This information will be used to provide input to the 4-year work plan developed by EPA and ARB.

Next meeting: September – October 2014