

Statewide Conformity Working Group

9/18/2013

Introductions; housekeeping; agenda review

No changes.

Public Comment

No comment on phone or at meeting sites.

Federal Updates

EPA Update

NAAQS Review Schedule Update:

- SO₂ - Phase 1 designations done; monitoring is focused on stationary sources. Not a transportation conformity-related pollutant.
- Ozone - Next review (leading to a new standard) still tbd. Phase 2 implementation rule has been proposed; will finalize in 2014. Did CA agencies submit any comments?
 - Questions about CMAQ implementation in areas that were nonattainment but are now attainment (conformity purposes) for the 2008 standard?
FHWA: CMAQ no longer applies after full revocation, not just conformity; so the foothill counties that became attainment for conformity purposes effective July 2013 are still eligible for CMAQ funding.
- PM 2012 standard – State area recommendations due at the end of 2013. Draft implementation guidance tbd but soon. Secondary standard and possible revocation of older standard complicate the issue.
 - Questions about status of changes due to PM_{2.5} court ruling – Are SIPs still on hold? Will there be reclassifications and when? EPA: Will find out & circulate.

Quantitative PM Hot Spot Analysis :

- Reminder: EMFAC 2011 has been required for new studies started since 9/6.
- 2013 Revised PM Hot Spot Guidance done but other things (monitoring regulations) holding it up. Should be out in a few weeks. Revised guidance covers EMFAC 2011 & changes related to PM_{2.5} monitoring regulations.
- Guidance changes are being incorporated into training sessions. Working on a training session in Southern California soon. Need a big room and Internet access.
 - Question: will there be public review of the updated Guidance? EPA: no. The updates are just technical. There are no policy calls or regulatory changes.
- CTEMFAC review package has been received; hope to move on it soon. Timing is several months.
- Not a California item, but of interest: OTAQ is gearing up for a new version of MOVES (2013); training will be offered in 2014.

Significant Litigation & Other Matters

- EPA now has web site for this. See: <http://www.epa.gov/ogc/noi.html>.

- Litigation will not be reported at future Statewide Conformity Working Group meetings. If somebody has questions about an item on the web site that should be discussed, please contact Karina O'Connor at least a week before the meeting.

Federal Highways & Other Updates

- Interim guides for CMAQ funding of operating assistance released June 2013. ONLY for operating assistance – other guidance coming through a rule in 2014. CMAQ for operating assistance is still capped at 3 years but can be used over a 5-year period.
- Conformity 101 training in LA (District 7 office) on 10/23-24 is filling fast. Email Cecelia Crenshaw (FHWA) now to reserve.
- Question: new staff coming on board but won't be here in time – offer again?
FHWA: don't know – but look online.

ARB Updates

EMFAC 2011 news

Nothing really new.

EMFAC 2013 update

Items from the 6/5/13 workshop regarding next EMFAC version:

- Will include advanced clean cars & LCFS rule effects
- Brings all portions of the model back into one module
- Updates fuels to match Board of Equalization data
- CalVAD tool added: measures VMT, and can be used as a visioning tool.

Another workshop is scheduled for 10/8/13 in Sacramento with webcast. For notices, get on the ARB LISTSERV for "MSEI."

- Question: Will EMFAC 2013 be coordinated with latest EPA MOVES model?
ARB: not aware of that happening – EMFAC is not MOVES.
- Question: Horizon year in EMFAC 2013?
ARB: not sure but definitely will go further out than the 2035 available in 2011. Also, the whole package for 2013 will be MySQL-based.
- Question: There's a pressing need for CT-EMFAC v5 – need to tell consultants which to use now?
EPA: need to talk offline about timing and approval process.

Break

Caltrans Updates

- Conformity Status Table Update ([handout](#))
- CA Sanctions Clocks list ([handout](#))
- CT-EMFAC 5 ([web link](#)) –EPA approval is needed before CT-EMFAC 5 can be used for conformity analysis, but since it's based on EMFAC 2011 it can be used in other work (such as CEQA and NEPA analysis) now.

- Question: What version of EMFAC do we use for project-level conformity such as for a Route 58 project that's about to go to FHWA?
EPA: use EMFAC 2011-PL.

Status of Air Quality & Transportation Planning - MPOs & Air Districts

- Butte: Nothing new. Last full conformity round was for 2008 RTP update.
- SACOG: Call for projects is out for development of the new MTP.
AQMD: Gearing up for next round of area designations.
- MTC: 2013 RTP approved in July by MTC, August by FHWA. Horizon year is 2040.
- San Joaquin Valley MPOs & Air District: New RTP/SCS done valleywide – 7 in March, 8th in July. Action is needed on the 2006 PM2.5 plan – on hold based on EPA issues & lawsuit. Timing of emission budgets is critical. Ozone SIP to be done in September for VMT offset demonstration addressing a court decision. ARB/EPA coordination needed for VMT recession adjustments and EMFAC 2011 in order to meet existing emission budgets for 2014 RTPs.
- San Luis Obispo: RTP amendment going to Board in 2 weeks and another soon. Less focused on 2014 RTP conformity right now than on amendments.
- Ventura: Working on emission inventory for new SIPs; no actual timeline yet. Part of SCAG for conformity.
- SCAG: RTP/SCS conformity redetermination done for all 7 areas including Indian Country (as donut areas for ozone). Also for Amendment 1& consistency FTIP. Working on 2016 RTP/SCS/FTIP with 2040 horizon year. New RTP/SCS due 4/2016; FTIP in 9/2015. SCAG providing SCAQMD with growth forecasts & vehicle activity for 2016 AQMP.
- SANDAG: Working on next RTP, to be combined with the Regional Comprehensive Plan. Adoption schedule for late 2015. Working out schedule for 2014 TIP. Recent Board action – approved 2050 growth forecasts. Air District: Area is marginal for 2008 Ozone and Maintenance for 1997 Ozone; watching monitoring data for attainment of the 2008 standard by 2015 when required.

2008 8-hr ozone areas – updates?

None other than San Diego's note.

Information Sharing

- Next meeting: March-April 2014
- New chair needed. Mike Brady retiring in early 2014.
 - Jason Crow (ARB) offered to take over. Group accepted his offer.

Adjourn