

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
AIR QUALITY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, September 1, 2005
MAG Office
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS PRESENT

Stephen Cleveland, City of Goodyear, Chairman
*Avondale: Michael Powell
*Buckeye: Carroll Reynolds
Chandler: Jim Weiss
*El Mirage: Lucky Roberts
*Gilbert: Tami Ryall
Glendale: Cathy Chaberski for Doug Kukino
Mesa: Scott Bouchie
Phoenix: Joe Gibbs for Gaye Knight
#Scottsdale: Larry Person
Surprise: Jim Nichols
*Tempe: Oddvar Tveit
*Citizen Representative: Walter Bouchard
*American Lung Association of Arizona: Bill Pfeifer
Salt River Project: Sunil Varma
Southwest Gas Corporation: Brian O'Donnell
*Arizona Public Service Company: Jim Mikula
*Western States Petroleum Association: Gina Grey
Valley Metro: Randi Alcott
*Arizona Motor Transport Association: Dave Berry
Maricopa County Farm Bureau: Jeannette Fish
Arizona Rock Products Association: Steve Trussell
for Rusty Bowers
*Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce: Michelle Rill

Associated General Contractors: Amanda McGennis
*Homebuilders Association of Central Arizona:
Connie Wilhelm-Garcia
*American Institute of Architects - Central Arizona:
Stephen J. Andros
#Valley Forward: Mannie Carpenter for Peter Allard
*University of Arizona - Cooperative Extension:
Patrick Clay
Arizona Department of Transportation: Beverly
Chenausky
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality: Peter
Hyde
#Environmental Protection Agency: Carol Weisner for
Wienke Tax
Maricopa County Air Quality Department: Bob
Downing for Jo Crumbaker
*Arizona Department of Weights and Measures:
Duane Yantorno
Federal Highway Administration: Ed Stillings
*Arizona State University: Judi Nelson
*Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community:
B. Bobby Ramirez
*Citizen Representative: David Rueckert

*Members neither present nor represented by proxy.
#Participated via telephone conference call.
+Participated via video conference call.

OTHERS PRESENT

Lindy Bauer, Maricopa Association of Governments
Dean Giles, Maricopa Association of Governments
Julie Hoffman, Maricopa Association of
Governments
Cathy Arthur, Maricopa Association of Governments
Ranjith Dandanayakula, Maricopa Association of
Governments
Ieesuck Jung, Maricopa Association of Governments
Taejoo Shin, Maricopa Association of Governments

Shawn Kendall, Arizona Department of
Environmental Quality
Kathleen Sommer, Arizona Department of
Transportation
Scott Di Biase, Pinal County
Joe Hughes, Town of Gilbert
Diane Arnst, Arizona Department of Environmental
Quality
Michael Schrock, City of Surprise

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the MAG Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee was conducted on September 1, 2005. Stephen Cleveland, City of Goodyear, Chairman, began discussion of the agenda items at approximately 1:40 p.m. since a quorum was not present. Larry Person, City of Scottsdale, Mannie Carpenter, Valley Forward, and Carol Weisner, Environmental Protection Agency Region 9, attended the meeting via telephone conference call.

2. Call to the Audience

Mr. Cleveland stated that, according to the MAG public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out comment cards, which are available on the table adjacent to the doorway inside the meeting room. Citizens are asked not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. Public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for nonagenda items and nonaction agenda items. Mr. Cleveland noted that no public comment cards had been received.

4. Methodologies for Evaluating Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Projects

Cathy Arthur, Maricopa Association of Governments, presented the Methodologies for Evaluating Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Projects. Ms. Arthur discussed background on the CMAQ Program, federal apportionment, and funding. She provided a list of programs and projects eligible for CMAQ funding as well as those not eligible. The general CMAQ guidelines were also presented.

Brian O'Donnell, Southwest Gas Corporation, inquired about school bus projects. Ms. Arthur responded that cities would submit the school bus projects to be included in the Transportation Improvement Program and the projects would then be evaluated.

Ms. Arthur mentioned that CMAQ project evaluation relies on the MAG Congestion Management System Score and the MAG Air Quality Score. Randi Alcott, Valley Metro, asked if peak travel time is used in evaluating projects that relieve traffic congestion. Ms. Arthur replied that typically peak travel time is used.

Ms. Arthur discussed the review process for the CMAQ Methodologies and mentioned when MAG will begin using the new methodologies. Steve Trussell, Arizona Rock Products Association, inquired about when the FY 2007 PM-10 paving unpaved road projects will be evaluated to determine emission reductions. Ms. Arthur responded that the projects are due by September 15, 2005. She added that MAG will evaluate the projects and provide the prioritization list to the Committee at the October meeting.

Mr. O'Donnell commented that school districts should be notified that funds may be available for school buses. He asked if the FY 2006 closeout funds are additional funds. Ms. Arthur replied that the closeout funds are funds that were not obligated. Ms. Arthur added that federal legislation has provided funding in addition to CMAQ funds for school buses.

Ms. Arthur discussed CMAQ project types and key factors used to quantify emission reductions. She indicated that Sierra Research reviewed the MAG CMAQ Methodologies in 2002 and provided recommendations. Ms. Arthur mentioned the changes incorporated into the 2004 CMAQ Methodologies and listed the general assumptions. The major revisions to the 2005 CMAQ Methodologies were based on suggestions from the June 28, 2005 MAG CMAQ Workshop. She discussed the revisions and provided a comparison of the 2004 and 2005 CMAQ Methodologies. Ms. Arthur also provided the Committee with a table summarizing the changes to the August 15, 2005 CMAQ Methodologies.

Mr. O'Donnell inquired about the modeling for HOV lane projects. Ms. Arthur replied that the EMME/2 travel demand models are used. Diane Arnst, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, commented that projects with an earlier implementation year should be given a high priority. Ms. Arthur responded that the new methodologies would look at a project such as light rail and model the year when the line would open since the first emission reductions would be achieved during that year. Ms. Arnst inquired about paving projects that have different years of implementation. She indicated that highest priority should be given to the project that is implemented first. Ms. Arthur replied that last year was a unique situation since three years of projects were evaluated. Typically one year of projects is evaluated each year.

Peter Hyde, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, asked if there is a way to solicit funds for the PM-10 category. He also inquired about an equitable division of funds that would enable more costly projects to get funded. Ms. Arthur responded that projects are also ranked on the basis of Congestion Management System Scores, which allows some more costly projects to be funded.

3. Approval of the June 23, 2005 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Cleveland indicated that a quorum was now present. He then called the meeting to order. The Committee reviewed the minutes from the June 23, 2005 meeting. Ms. Alcott moved and Jim Weiss, City of Chandler, seconded and the motion to approve the June 23, 2005 meeting minutes carried unanimously.

5. Status Report on the MAG Biogenic Study

Ms. Arthur informed the Committee that the FY 2005 MAG Unified Planning Work Program includes a biogenics study to assess the contribution of emissions from vegetation to the formation of ozone in the eight-hour ozone nonattainment area. She indicated that biogenic emissions account for about one-third of volatile organic compounds in Maricopa County. Ms. Arthur discussed the current Biogenics Model and the goal of the study. She added that Environ International Corporation was selected as the prime contractor for the MAG Biogenics Study. Ms. Arthur provided the tasks and a schedule for the study.

Ms. Alcott asked if the study will produce a list of plants that shouldn't be planted in the nonattainment area due to the emissions produced. Ms. Arthur responded that a list of plants and the emissions produced may be a by-product of the study.

6. Update on the Arizona Natural Events Plan Technical Criteria Document

Shawn Kendall, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, provided an update on the ADEQ Natural Events Plan (NEP) Technical Criteria Document. The ADEQ is in the process of preparing a supplement to the Technical Criteria Document for the Arizona Natural Events Plan to address regional natural exception events. Mr. Kendall provided information on the stakeholder process, a timeline, and the current status. He indicated that the purpose of the supplement is to recognize air quality events influenced by distant/natural sources and conditions that overwhelm Best Available Control Measures.

Mr. Kendall mentioned the steps involved in assessing a regional natural exception event and discussed the anticipated applications. He added that the next stakeholder meeting will be held Tuesday, September 20, 2005 at 1:30 pm.

Joe Gibbs, City of Phoenix, asked if data that did not exceed the standard could be flagged. Mr. Kendall replied that in the case of a limited maintenance plan, data that did not exceed the standard can be flagged. Mannie Carpenter, Valley Forward, asked if ADEQ is looking at the correlation between lightening and ozone. Mr. Kendall responded that there is little documentation on the subject, but it is plausible.

Ms. Arnst commented that, according to EPA, 99 percent of nitrogen oxide is combustion and one percent is lightening. She added that the EPA proposed rulemaking on natural and exceptional events should be available by December 2005.

7. EPA Proposed Rulemaking to Address the Court Remands in the PM-10 Air Quality Lawsuit

Lindy Bauer, Maricopa Association of Governments, reviewed with the Committee that on July 25, 2002, EPA approved the Revised MAG 1999 Serious Area Particulate Plan for PM-10. The Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest subsequently filed a lawsuit to challenge EPA's approval of the plan. On May 10, 2004, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued its opinion which upheld EPA's final approval in part, but remanded to EPA the question of whether CARB diesel must be included in the plan as a part of Best Available Control Measures (BACM) and Most Stringent Measures (MSM). The Court also remanded the extension of the attainment date.

Ms. Bauer stated that in the Federal Register on July 1, 2005, EPA again proposed to approve the BACM and MSM demonstration in the plan and grant the request to extend the attainment deadline from 2001 to 2006. She indicated that comments on the proposed rulemaking were submitted to EPA from the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest on August 1, 2005. The comments were provided to the Committee.

Ms. Bauer stated that in order to increase the supply of gasoline and minimize the potential gasoline supply disruptions caused by Hurricane Katrina, the Environmental Protection Agency is waiving the requirement to sell summer gasoline throughout all fifty states. The waiver is in effect until September 15, 2005. A letter from EPA was provided to the Committee.

8. Call for Future Agenda Items

Mr. Cleveland announced that the next meeting of the Committee has been tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 2005. He encouraged the Committee to provide MAG staff with suggestions for future agenda items. With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned.