

Meeting Notes

Air Quality Subcommittee (AQS)

May 6, 2021

Attendees

Ian Beam, MDOT
Cooper Bowers, DelDOT
Alex Brun, MDE
Marvina Cephas, DNREC
Heather Dunigan, WILMAPCO
Mike DuRoss, DelDOT
Jol Shelton, DNREC
Cathy Smith, DART
Marilyn Smith, D/KC MPO
Bill Swiatek, WILMAPCO
Tigist Zegeye, WILMAPCO

Meeting Recording (Zoom)

<https://wilmapco.sharefile.com/d-s025ac3b749bc4219a967396427c03ffa>

Meeting Agenda/Packet

<https://wilmapco.sharefile.com/d-s7fe9ed37bd8e4beeacdb7df44c65d6d8>

Acceptance of the notes from the April 1 meeting

<https://wilmapco.sharefile.com/share/view/s774260097e0f4bea9646d24c8783e8e8>

- The notes were accepted without any corrections or clarifications.

Review of Draft Timeline and Discussion of Assumptions for the New Castle County FY 2023 TIP Air Quality Conformity Analysis

- Mr. Swiatek reviewed this agenda item. (4:33 into the Zoom recording)
- He reviewed the proposed air quality conformity timeline for conducting the conformity analysis. It would begin in August 2021 with the finalization of the regionally significant project list and end in March 2022 with Council adoption and submission to federal agencies.

- Mr. DuRoss asked if this run coincides with an update of the Plan. Mr. Swiatek said the Plan will be updated the following year.
- Mr. DuRoss suggested adding: finalize land use TAZ data (WILMAPCO) and finalize model inputs (DNREC) to the timeline in the August 5, 2021 timeframe.
- Mr. Shelton opened a discussion about which MOVES model to use. MOVES 3, the latest version, is not required but will be in future analyses. While the analysis results will be different, he felt the model change will not impact whether we pass the budgets. Mr. DuRoss said he preferred using MOVES 3 just to gain experience with it. DelDOT's consultants are testing it currently and will have a preliminary update in July on its performance. If it does not work well, we can fall back on MOVES 2014. The group agreed with this approach.
- Mr. Swiatek said it was necessary to discuss the analysis years. What is required is a near-term year, 1-5 years into the future; the Plan horizon year (2050) and then interim years which space the analysis years no more than 10 years apart. He proposed the years: 2025, 2035, 2045 and 2050. He said the only other consideration was to see if there was an attainment year post 2020. In that case, that year would also have to be modeled. The group agreed.
- Mr. Shelton noted that anything post-2035 was completely up in the air due to the EV transition and the lack of their representation in the model.
- Mr. Swiatek noted that the November AQS meeting will likely be in the afternoon with more information on a time to come.
- ***POST MEETING NOTE:*** Mr. Becoat confirmed in an e-mail to Bill Swiatek on May 10, 2021 that the analysis years of 2025, 2035, 2045 and 2050 were fine and that there were no attainment years to consider. He also confirmed that only New Castle County needed to be analyzed at this time, with the next scheduled Cecil County analysis occurring during the update of the Plan.

Other

- There was no other business.