

INTER AGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP
Tuesday, January 29, 2013
East-West Gateway Board Room

Members Present:

Michael Coulson, Chair - East-West Gateway Council of Governments
Joe Winkelmann - Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Mike Henderson - Missouri Department of Transportation
Jim Stack - Illinois Department of Transportation, District 8
Betsy Tracy - Federal Highway Administration, Illinois (telephone)
Mike Rogers - Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (telephone)
Steven (Cody) Brown - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 (telephone)
Susan Stiff - Illinois Department of Transportation (telephone)
Brad McMahon - Federal Highway Administration, Missouri (telephone)

Others Present:

Mark Leath - Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Joe Gray - Illinois Department of Transportation, District 8

Staff:

Larry Grither Jason Lange Carol Lawrence

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Inter Agency Consultation Group (IACG) was called to order by Mike Coulson, East-West Gateway Council of Governments (EWG). A six-month schedule for 2013 IACG meetings was distributed. This item was also emailed to IACG participants.

2. Update on Conformity Determination for Amendment to FY 2013-2016
Transportation Improvement Program
- Jason Lange, East-West Gateway Council of Governments

Added to the FY 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) were new projects associated with the New Mississippi River Bridge construction and work associated with the Poplar Street Bridge (PSB) including interchange/ramps and the Martin Luther King Bridge connector and the PSB deck slide. Both the travel demand model and the Conformity Determination had to be re-run for this Amendment. The Draft Conformity Determination document was out for public comment from December 7, 2012 through January 11, 2013. No public comments were received on the Conformity Determination or the Amendment to the TIP. They will be presented for action at the Board of Directors meeting on January 30, 2013. After both are approved, they will be transmitted to Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Mr. Coulson, EWG, thanked Mr. Rogers of Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) for the editorial comments. They were incorporated into the final document.

3. Conformity Determination for FY 2014-2017 TIP - Schedule and Regional Emissions Analysis Assumptions
- Michael Coulson, East-West Gateway Council of Governments

Copies were distributed of the schedule for the development of the FY 2014-2017 TIP, a schedule highlighting milestones in the TIP/Conformity Determination process and the proposed Regional Emissions Analysis tables. Items were also emailed. One of the comments at the April 2011 Managers Meeting was that schedules for TIP development and Conformity Determination should be prepared and distributed. The Conformity Determination schedule and Regional Emissions Analysis tables could change as Ms. Shoab is working on Motor Vehicle Emission Simulation (MOVES) model sensitivity runs. For ozone have Illinois MOVES-developed motor vehicle emissions budgets and Missouri Mobile6-developed budgets. With sensitivity analysis trying to determine if need to initiate modeling prior to March 2, 2013 and follow the same regional emissions analysis approach as was used in the last two Conformity Determinations. MOVES would be used for Illinois ozone tests and, Mobile6.2 for Missouri ozone test sand Missouri and Illinois PM2.5 tests. After March 2, 2013, only MOVES can be used.

Mr. Leath, Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MoDNR), recommended using Mobile6.2 to estimate emissions and starting the Conformity process before the March 2013 deadline. EWG will know that they will be able to conform to the Mobile6-developed budgets for Missouri. If EWG were to determine that Mobile6 budgets could be met with emissions estimates developed with MOVES, that would be okay with MoDNR. New 2008 and 2022 motor vehicle emissions budgets from Missouri's ozone Early Progress Plan should be found adequate in Fall 2013. Mr. Winkelmann, MoDNR, said that when MoDNR ran MOVES and compared the emissions estimates to Mobile6.2 budget, the outcome was too close. It would be better to compare budgets and emissions estimates which were developed with the same type of emissions model.

Mr. Coulson, EWG, suggested that to be on the safe side, IACG should go ahead and use the Mobile6.2 for Missouri ozone and Missouri/Illinois PM2.5 tests. If initiate Conformity Determination at this point, can still use Mobile6.2. Mr. Leath, MoDNR, said that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has given MoDNR the inclination that they would go along with this approach.

Mr. Coulson, EWG, pointed out that Missouri ozone MOVES budgets would be in place in Fall for the Mid Year Conformity Determination process if it is needed. He added that there appears to be consensus for this approach. The IACG has to agree that the Conformity Determination process is starting now. Mr. Henderson, MoDOT, **made a motion** to proceed with using Mobile6.2 for Missouri ozone and Missouri/Illinois PM2.5 tests

and that today is initiation of Conformity Determination process. Mr. Winkelmann, MoDNR, seconded this motion. **The motion passed.** January 29, 2013 is the date the Conformity Determination began.

EWG will send out revised Regional Emissions Analysis tables to IACG.

4. Time Frame for IACG to Review Draft List of Projects for TIP and to Preview Draft Conformity Determination Document
- Michael Coulson, East-West Gateway Council of Governments

The next agenda item comes out of a recommendation from the 2011 Baseline Assessment Review (BAR) that EWG provide the IACG with list of projects 30 days prior to initiation of Regional Emissions Analysis and including travel demand modeling and emissions modeling. For the FY 2013-2016 TIP/Conformity Determination, EWG released a list of all projects and their classification as either regionally significant (include in travel demand model and regional emissions analysis for Conformity), not regionally significant but not exempt included in travel demand model and regional emissions analysis for Conformity) or exempt from regional emissions analysis. All proposed projects were classified and listed, it was not limited to the projects to be recommended for funding and inclusion in the TIP and Regional Emissions Analysis. There existed confusion over the purpose of the list. USEPA was interested in discussing and vetting Regionally Significant classifications. As a result, EWG has added more information to the project tables and is working to have schematics of regionally significant projects.

EWG is proposing a shorter turn-around time of two weeks for the reviewers and anticipates there will be some type of meeting (in person or telephone) to discuss the project classifications. Because the public release of Illinois projects can not occur until the Governor releases them, it may be necessary to have multiple lists. EWG will attempt to prepare a more descriptive list of projects.

Another recommendation from the Baseline Assessment review was that the draft Conformity Determination be provided to the IACG 30 days prior to the start of the public comment period and that the IACG adopt a policy that this review be completed within 15 days of receipt of draft document. The preview of the draft document by the IACG is a critical item. A preview period of two weeks (and not 30 days) is preferred.

5. Early Progress Plan for the Missouri Portion of the St. Louis Non-Attainment Area under the 2008 Ozone Standard
- Mark Leath, Missouri Department of Natural Resources

At the February 5 Missouri Air Conservation Commission (MACC) meeting, there will be a public hearing on the Early Progress Plan for the Missouri portion of the St. Louis non-attainment area under the 2008 eight-hour ozone national ambient air quality standard

(NAAQS). The Early Progress Plan is a voluntary State Implementation Plan (SIP) prepared by MoDNR. It establishes a baseline emissions inventory for 2008, grows that emissions inventory to 2015 and shows that Missouri is making progress toward attainment. The purpose for the Plan is to develop 2015 volatile organic compounds (VOC) and oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) motor vehicle emissions budgets using the MOVES model. These 2015 attainment year budgets would replace the 2014 one-hour ozone budgets established with the Mobile6 emissions model. MOVES produces higher emissions compilations than Mobile6.2. For Conformity purposes, it would be difficult to meet the 2014 budgets using MOVES. The goal is for USEPA to find the 2015 budgets adequate in Fall 2013 after the end of the current TIP cycle. That way EWG will be able to use Mobile6.2 for Missouri ozone tests. Comments on the Early Progress Plan will be accepted through February 13, 2013. The proposed 2015 budgets are: for VOC 32.70 tons per ozone season day; and for NO_x 76.70 tons per ozone season day.

Ms. Tracy, FHWA Illinois, asked what the date of vehicle fleet information used. Mr. Leath, MoDNR, said 2008 data was used as that was year of the baseline emissions inventory. The 2008 data was then projected out to 2015 using a conservative growth rate of 1.5 percent which was based on historical trends.

MoDNR is also looking to revise the PM_{2.5} Maintenance Plan for the 1997 annual fine particle NAAQS. This Maintenance Plan was submitted to USEPA in 2011. MoDNR has identified a few errors in the development of the emissions inventory. Correcting them will slightly affect the motor vehicle emissions budgets. MoDNR is also going to try to insert demonstrations and adjust assumptions for the point source inventory which are based on the federal Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) as opposed to the Cross State Air Pollution Rule which was vacated in August 2012. Using CAIR will allow the controls in the Maintenance Plan to be considered permanent and enforceable. MoDNR is also going to add motor vehicle emissions budgets for the 2008 base year which will provide more clarity in the Conformity Determination process. If there is a conformity analysis year before 2022 (2022 budgets in the Maintenance Plan), then the 2008 budgets can be used in the Regional Emissions Analysis.

6. Other Business

Mr. Coulson EWG, said that out of the December 2012 conference call on the action items from the April 2011 Managers Meeting, it was decided that the IACG should be asked as a whole on the nature and frequency of conformity management meetings. The group was asked if they saw the need for another upper level management meeting. It was suggested the group wait to make a recommendation after there is closure on the BAR.

Mr. McMahan, FHWA Missouri, said that from the Federal Highways' perspective there was no need for another meeting. It is his understanding that once the action list is finalized,

Michael Jay of USEPA Region 7 will take it to his management for review and a decision on holding a closeout meeting. He asked if the IACG as a whole felt there was a need to have another meeting.

Mr. Coulson, EWG, said that there was a consensus that another meeting was not needed. The Managers Meeting report and the Baseline Assessment Review report need to be completed and then can see if a need exists.

Mr. McMahon, FHWA Missouri, said that the Baseline Assessment Review is going to be wrapped up. Doing follow-up on the implementation status of recommendations made as part of review. Based on December 2012 conference call, clarification is needed on a couple of action items which believe EWG is going to do. The Review process will be complete and presented to Michael Jay of USEPA Region 7. Mr. McMahon will talk with Jim Wild about this.

Mr. Winkelmann, MoDNR, said it was good to learn that Federal Highways believes that a good deal of progress has been made. In discussions with MoDNR management about the ongoing issues and recent progress, no concern has been expressed and no need for another meeting.

Mr. Brown, USEPA Region 7, said that USEPA is waiting on the final report. Michael Jay has indicated that their boss, Josh Tapp, would like to bring the upper level managers together to close out the review process. Mr. Tapp would be the one responsible for initiating a managers meeting.

Next meeting of the IACG has been scheduled for Wednesday March 6 at 10 am. There being no other business, the meeting of the Inter Agency Consultation Group was adjourned.