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Creating Solutions Across Jurisdictional Boundaries

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AGENDA

INTER AGENCY CONSULTATION
GROUP Tuesday, August 24, 2021
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Virtual Meeting

DUE TO COVID-19 OUTBREAK, EAST-WEST GATEWAY'S OFFICES ARE CURRENTLY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AND WILL BE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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1. **Call to Order**
   - Carol Lawrence, East-West Gateway Council of Governments

2. **Development of MOVES Inputs for Upcoming State Implementation Plan Action**
   - Francisco Cortalezzi, Missouri Department of Natural Resources

3. **Update on Conformity Determination and FY 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program**
   - East-West Gateway Council of Governments

4. **Other Business**

5. **Adjournment**

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Meeting Notes
Inter Agency Consultation Group
Monday, July 26, 2021
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Virtual Meeting

Members
Carol Lawrence – East-West Gateway Council of Governments
Tom Caldwell – Illinois Department of Transportation
Brad McMahon – Federal Highway Administration
Francisco Cortalezzi – Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Matthew Harrell – Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Kevin Jemison – Illinois Department of Transportation
Christopher Schmidt – Illinois Department of Transportation
Mike Henderson - Missouri Department of Transportation
Jed Wolkins – EPA Region 7
Mark Leath – Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Staff
Mary Grace Lewandowski Lubna Shoaib Jason Lange Rachael Pawlak Jennifer Vuitel
Amir Poorfakhraei Brad Williams Maureen McCarthy

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Inter Agency Consultation Group (IACG) was called to order by Carol Lawrence, East-West Gateway Council of Governments (EWG).

2. Update on MO HB 661

- East-West Gateway Council of Governments

On July 9th Governor Parson vetoed MO HB 661. Earlier today the IACG was sent a pdf of his letter laying out the reasons for vetoing this bill. The following information is from the Missouri House web page describing what is next. The vetoed bill is to be returned to the House of origin with Governor's objections (letter).The 2021 veto session is to start September 15. A two thirds vote of both Houses is required to override the veto. Later in meeting, we will talk about modeling approach and schedule

3. Reclassification of Jefferson and Monroe Counties to Non-attainment and Conformity Determination Requirement

In the July 2020 decision by the U.S. Circuit Court for the DC District on the Clean Wisconsin vs. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Court sent 2018 attainment designations for the 2015 ozone standard for 16 counties (nine non-attainment areas) back to EPA for additional review. Jefferson and Monroe Counties were part of this case. EPA has completed their review and as of July 14, 2021 Jefferson and Monroe have been reclassified as marginal non-attainment for the 2015 ozone standard. The IACG was sent an updated map of the St. Louis non-attainment area.

Transportation conformity applies one year after the effective date of the designation. For Jefferson and Monroe Counties have to demonstrate conformity of Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Transportation Plan for the 2015 standard by July 14, 2022. After in-house discussions, EWG plans to include these two counties in the write-up and Regional Emissions Analysis modeling for the Conformity Determination for the FY 2022-2025 TIP and related amendments to *Connected2045* Update which will be adopted in October 2021.

3. Modeling Approach for Regional Emissions Analysis for Conformity Determination

Ms. Shoaib, EWG, described the modeling approach EWG is going to use for the Regional Emissions Analysis for this Conformity Determination. This approach came out of discussions in-house and with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and EPA Region 7.

In the Regional Emissions Analysis have to demonstrate that in future years on-road emissions from projects in TIP and Plan will be less than Missouri and Illinois motor vehicle emission budgets.

For Illinois there is no change to the emissions modeling except that Monroe County will be added to the analysis done for 2015 ozone standard. For Missouri, Jefferson County is going to be part of the regional emissions analysis for the 2015 ozone standard.

Missouri (MO) HB 661 has had an impact on Gateway's modeling process. Currently, all five Missouri counties are modeled with an I/M program. But if MO HB 661 was signed, St. Charles, Jefferson and Franklin Counties would be out and St. Louis County and City of St. Louis would still be in the I/M program. The emissions modeling done for the 2008 and 2015 ozone standards would have to show that change. The Governor has vetoed MO HB 661. Do not know what the outcome of the veto session will be (sustained or overruled).

EWG has to keep moving forward so that the FY 2022-2025 TIP and related amendments to Connected2045 Update can be approved in October. Plan is to make sure that results of emissions analysis are accepted for either situation. For Franklin, Jefferson and St. Charles Counties, I/M will not be part of the modeling and expect that higher emissions will be reported. EWG will be modeling the "worst case" (or highest emissions) scenario. If the Governor's veto is overridden, EWG will have already modeled for that situation. If it is sustained, have overcompensated and should still be able to pass the regional emissions analysis. There have been discussions between EWG, MoDNR and EPA Region 7. EPA has indicated that they are ok with this approach. EWG staff have been doing the background work necessary before they can start running the emissions model.

Mr. Henderson, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), observed that this approach sounded reasonable. At the last meeting, this did not appear to be an option. Ms. Shoaib, EWG, said that it was a matter of timing required to run the model and needing to touch base with MoDNR and EPA Region 7. Mr. Wolkins, EPA Region 7, said that he had talked with Conformity leadership, MOVES leadership and I/M leadership at EPA and they were okay with

this approach. It will allow EPA to prepare letter for OneDOT stating that EWG's Conformity Determination analysis met the requirements of the Transportation Conformity regulations.

4. Conformity Determination Schedule

The Conformity Determination schedule has been updated and was sent to the IACG. EWG staff is looking to be done with modeling and post-processing by September 8. The Draft will be ready in time for the start of the comment period September 10 – October 11, 2021. The Draft will be presented to the EWG Board of Directors at their September 29 meeting. The Board will act on the Conformity Determination and FY 2022-2025 TIP at their October 27 meeting.

Staff is still figuring out what the Preview Draft will consist of because of the short turnaround time between the end of the model work and finalizing Draft. Maybe regional emissions analysis results can be sent to IACG.

5. Other Business

There was consensus on the air quality modeling classification of projects which are to be included in FY 2022 – 2025 TIP.

The next IACG meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 24 at 2 pm and will be virtual. There being no other business, meeting adjourned.