DRAFT 3/11/16

Federal/State Technical Work Collaboration Group

March 9, 2015, Conference Call Summary

1. Roll call – EPA OAQPS, OAP, OTAQ, WESTAR-WRAP, MARAMA, OTC, SESARM, LADCO, CenSARA, Maryland

2. Theresa Pella walked through the white paper developed by the MJOs and reviewed by Chet. The paper suggests the goal of the group could be an understanding by all of the planning that will need to occur to comply with 2015 Ozone transport, Regional Haze, and other requirements. Ideally, everyone would be in agreement with what years are selected, when products would be available, etc.

Discussion points (grouped by topic):

Base year

* MARAMA needs a determination by the end of 2016 and suggested 2014 was “too good” of a meteorological year, even though it is a NEI year.
* EPA prefers consistent inventories but may be able to accept different meteorological regimes.  They encourage everyone to use the same base year emissions inventory but use of different meteorological years could capture different transport patterns.
* MARAMA is concerned about using multiple meteorological years with a single inventory year.  A single inventory year may be inadequate to evaluate peak demand/high ozone day events, which are becoming more critical to SIP planning.
* Everyone will need to move away from 2011 base year at some point – may be able to use for regional haze but almost certainly not for 2015 ozone SIPs. 2013 and 2014 may not be the best either.
* LADCO doesn’t see a better year than 2011; hope to see what 2016 looks like before deciding. MARAMA added that a final inventory probably wouldn’t be ready until late 2017.
* 2014 NEI will be out by the end of the fiscal year (Sep 2016).  If it is not a preferred inventory year, it might be possible to create a 2015 inventory off the 2014 NEI.
* EPA will do 2028 regional haze modeling using 2011 NEI.
* OTC agrees this is an opportunity to rethink the technical work process.

Timeline

* 110 SIPs for 2015 O3 are due in 2018.
* EPA is under no obligation to conduct an analysis for 2015 O3 until states do not submit or submit inadequate transport SIPs.  They would not use 2011 NEI for the 2015 O3 if work is ultimately done by EPA, but would need the base year conversation completed by May 2016.
* CAMD’s first priority is to complete the updates to the transport rule for the 2008 O3 standard by this fall. Might be able to start early on a few things but not a lot. The final 2008 Ozone transport final rulemaking will provide clarity about some questions in the white paper.
* OTAQ – There are no updates planned for MOVES for at least a year. Also, no MOVES NONROAD model for 1 to 1 ½ years.

Doing the work

* Do we want to collaborate or does each MJO want to get EPA info and go off and do their own thing?
* EPA will only be able to put out information this fall (for 2015 Ozone transport) from analyses using the 2011 base year.  It will take considerably longer to do anything using the 2014 NEI, but redoing with 2011 will take away time and resources from developing a new platform.
* EPA will need to prioritize use of available contract funding.
* Because of the time to do modeling runs, MARAMA suggests depending on EPA for MOVES runs with states providing the proper input data.
* It sounds like the CB05 issue with CMAQ may be resolved for the time being (OTAQ is providing).
* WESTAR suggested many activities should occur in parallel, not sequentially. MARAMA gave Maryland approach as an example in getting an emissions inventory ready.
* WESTAR offered a repository (similar to the National Oil and Gas Committee one) where data and files could be stored and shared - <http://vibe.cira.colostate.edu/ogec/home.htm>

3. ASSIGNMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

* As there was general consensus that the base year was a high priority and indicated an opportunity to relook at how base years are determined, Theresa volunteered to draft a chart of options for base year selection for the group’s input – including pros and cons of each.
* The MJOs will write up of any technical work they are doing or plan to do, including schedules and needs and submit to Theresa for distribution and discussion during the next call. This information will help determine how late is too late…
* SESARM will obtain up-to-date slides from Anna W. showing the schedule for NAAQS reviews and implementation milestones.
* OTC suggested we consider bringing in the EPA regional offices at some point so they are not surprised by these discussions.  Theresa will discuss with Chet.

Parking Lot:

* Tad (MD) suggested there is a need to work with EPA on regulation of mobile sources in addition to getting MOVES assistance.  Mobile source emissions will be a significant consideration in future attainment and good neighbor SIPs.
* OTC suggested non-EGU point sources and area sources will need to be analyzed for 2015 Ozone transport SIPs. The fact that some areas will still be nonattainment for 2008 Ozone may complicate technical work.
* WESTAR mentioned decisions on what to do with uncontrollable sources (ex: fire and biogenics) will need to be made, as well as background ozone, which is a federal issue.

Next call will be the week of March 21st.