EPA/MJO Technical Work Collaborative Group Conference Call Notes

12/14/2017

Attendees: Paul Miller (NESCAUM), Julie McDill (MARAMA), Zac Adelman (LADCO), Chris Messinas (EPA), John Hornback (SESARM), Norm Possiel (EPA), Tom Moore (WESTAR), Dave Foerter (OTC), Michael Vince (CENSARA), Chet Wayland (EPA), Alison Eyth (EPA), Brian Timin (EPA), Mary Uhl (WESTAR)

1. 2016 Platform development

Julie McDill described the results of the survey that was sent to states regarding the 2016 platform development:

* 23 states plan to use the 2016 platform for regional haze analysis
* 16 states plan to use the 2016 platform for ozone transport analysis
* Many states volunteered staff as members on workgroups
* Many respondents noted that the timeline seems aggressive

Tom Moore asked whether workgroups could ascertain how the 2016 platform will differ from the 2014 platform for each workgroup sector.

1. Roundtable questions for each MJO:

* What are the regulatory actions of focus within the states in your MJO that involve modeling (i.e., regional haze, ozone NAAQS, ozone transport, etc.)?
* Is anyone using the 2011 platform?  Anyone planning to use the 2014 or 2016 platforms?  For what actions?
* What models are states/MJOs planning to use for each regulatory action identified? (include any relevant comments about grid resolution, met, etc.)
* What are the most "thorny" technical issues that you have encountered in modeling completed so far?  What difficult technical issues do you anticipate?
* How can EPA help with the technical issues?  How should EPA assistance be prioritized?

MARAMA/MANE-VU/NESCAUM responses

* Ozone and regional haze are primary focus; some states have challenges with 1-hour SO2.
* Mobile emissions overestimate is a concern
* 2011 platform is the workhorse currently; may use 2016 in a year or so. In the near-term, 2016 doesn’t help much, using 2014 to review inventories. Episodic modeling is all done using the 2011 platform.
* EPA can help by improving mobile inventories; if the glider kit rule goes forward, can EPA add glider kit emissions to the MOVES model? Chet advised that OTAQ could be engaged to work on that. After-market catalysts are also an important mobile emissions issue.

SESARM responses

* Using 2011/2028 for regional have, ozone, ozone transport
* SESARM is using supplemental information from Alpine Geophysics
* Louisville may use 2014 or 2016 platform for ozone SIP work
* EPA can help with CAMx modeling support in general. SESARM will release their RFP for regional haze analysis soon.

LADCO responses

* Regional haze, 2008 ozone transport, 2015 Ozone NAAQS, air toxics and 1-hour SO2 are primary focus.
* Using CAMx for near-source PM2.5
* 2011 platform provides best projection; LADCO will use 2011 for regional haze SIPs.
* EPA can help with a hybrid 2028 projection (2011 en has updated 2028 projection, 2011 el has a 2028 projection).
* LADCO uses CAMx and CMAQ
* Thorny issues are boundary conditions for hemispheric CMAQ.
* EPA can help with platform development and improving the organization of files.

CENSARA responses

* There are no CENSARA resources for regional modeling. States model individually; Texas is particularly well-equipped.

WESTAR responses

* Regional haze and the ozone NAAQS are the focus
* WESTAR/WRAP will use the 2014 platform at least to start, may plug in 2016 platform as available
* Thorny technical issues are background ozone and regional haze, international transport, access to meta data and the relative stiffness of the model.

1. WESTAR/National Regional Haze workshop summary

The workshop was a success with over 150 participants attending in person or remotely. Many commented that the national workshop may be used as a model for future regional workshops.

1. Updated 2023 Ozone modeling comments

OTC doesn’t think the updated modeling should be used as the data is not relevant for the 2008 standard. ERTAC EGU workgroup thinks that the emissions reductions in the update are too far below CSAPR 2 requirements, therefore, the emissions are not a reasonable projection.

1. Future agenda topics for a “large group” call in February:

* 2016 platform development workgroup update
* OTC’s source apportionment work on the 2011 platform
* 2016 modeling inputs from 2014v1
* LADCO’s air toxics modeling initiative