**Meeting Summary**

**Air Quality Interagency Consultation Group (ICG)**

January 26, 2022

Attendees: 23

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Aaron Bustow, FHWA**  **Ala Alnawaiseh, DRCOG**  **Alvan-Bidal Sanchez, DRCOG**  **Becky Karasko, NFRMPO**  **Bill Haas, FHWA**  **Dale Wells, APCD**  **Doug Rex, DRCOG**  **Emmett Malone**  **Greg Lohrke, EPA**  **Jeremy Horne, Ramboll**  **Jessico Ferko, RAQC**  **Kristin Kenyon, FTA** | **Kevin Briggs, APCD**  **Kira Shonkwiler, CDPHE**  **Medora Bornhoft, NFRMPO**  **Melissa Balding, DRCOG**  **Robert Spotts, DRCOG**  **Ron Papsdorf, DRCOG**  **Rose Waldman, CDOT**  **Sang Gu Lee, DRCOG**  **Steve Cook, DRCOG**  **Theresa Takushi**  **Wayne Chuang, RAQC** |
|  |  |
|  |  |

## Key Items and Decisions

* DRCOG has completed the 20 year maintenance period for CO. Greg Lohrke confirmed that transportation conformity determinations are no longer required for CO.
* ICG was presented with DRCOG’s modeling assumptions for the 2022 Amendments to the 2050 MVRTP.
* DRCOG and NFRMPO are working out details of timeline and schedule for modeling, analysis, and documentation processes for the separate conformity and new GHG requirements.

## DRCOG Updates

## Robert Spotts shared that DRCOG has come to the end of CO maintenance.

* Alvan-Bidal Sanchez shared an update on the 2022 DRCOG Amendments to the 2050 RTP. There are 7 project based amendments, 3 from CDOT, 4 from local. The majority are on changes to staging period, one is adding a new project. There are three rounds of GHG analysis built into the RTP update schedule.
* Robert Spotts shared population and employment for the RTP update has stayed the same.
* Robert Spotts reported that project updates will be concurrent but separate for conformity and GHG analysis. Ozone and PM10 conformity will go through the routine APCD MOVES process, with public hearings and board approval. It will not go through AQCC. The GHG process will be separate and also go through the Regional Transportation Commission.
* Robert Spotts and Dale Wells confirmed that MOVES 3 will be for Ozone and PM10 conformity determinations. DRCOG has been exploring options for in house MOVES capabilities, especially for the anticipated iterations of model runs required for GHG analysis.

## NFRMPO Updates

* Medora Bornhoft presented the NFMPO Conformity Schedule for calendar year 2022 including potential conformity requirements for a TIP update and a 2045 RTP update.
* Some key notes:
  + Currently, there is no change in regionally significant projects. There is a small chance of a project coming through that is regionally significant, but likely not for the TIP update.
  + There is no GHG modeling required for TIP.
  + February ICG concurrence on determination type.
* Medora Bornhoft clarified that the NFRMPO relied on regional analysis for 2019 for current TIP. The understanding is that regional analysis just has to be completed in the last 4 years to use, so the 2019 analysis is still eligible. The question for the EPA is if the NFRMPO is redesignated (“a bump up”), would this impact analysis years because of attainment year changes?
* The current understanding on the grace period and new determination requirements is that a conformity determination must be done by December 30th, 2022 because of the new northern Weld portion. There is some questions on this. EPA to provide answers. There also needs to be clarification on how requirements for new determinations change if projects change.

## RAQC Updates

* Wayne Chuang noted that the northern Weld boundary will be added for this planning of the SIP- which will be based on the 2015 standard (70 ppb) for moderate non-attainment. For timing, the SIP chapters are being drafted right now to be brought up to RAQC board.
* There is ongoing coordination between DRCOG, NFRMPO, RAQC, and EPA on the different attainment years in the two SIPs. The current conclusion is that the base year is 2016 and the MPOs will be running models for 2023 (pending changes) and 2026. However, the understanding that once you are in the year there is no reporting requirement for that year will likely come into play for 2023. Staging years are understood as followed:
  + DRCOG: 2026, 2030, 2040, 2050.
  + NFRMPO: 2026 and 2030, and then TBD for horizon years
* An outstanding question is when staging years can be changed- based on approval of a new SIP or when EPA does a redesignation? VMT interpolation will be impacted by this.

## APCD/ AQCC Updates

* No additional notes or updates.

## CDOT Updates

* CDOT is working to also understand the how the grace period works with the new boundary for the non-attainment area.
* Theresa Takushi and Rose Waldman shared staffing updates, and the hopes to add a MOVES modeler to Erik Sabina’s team.
* Theresa Takushi says CDOT is carrying on with policy development for GHG rulemaking. There are no further updates and CDOT remains available for questions.

## EPA Updates

* Greg Lohrke is to work on letter for the end of CO maintenance.