

Air Quality Management Work Group Planning Meeting

Co-Chair: Greg Green, EPA/OAQPS Co-Chair: Janet McCabe, IN DEM/OAQ June 23, 2004

## Air Quality Management Work Group

- Purpose Evaluate NAS report and recommend to the CAAAC improvements to the air quality management program
- □ Today's meeting:
  - Define the process and schedule
  - Identify work group and sub-groups
  - Lay out potential program areas for consideration
  - Solicit feedback from CAAAC members



### Key Milestones

Proposed Work Group Meetings

Mid-July 2004 August 13, 2004 September 9-10, 2004

Draft Recommendations to CAAAC October 15, 2004

CAAAC Conference Call

October 20, 2004

Draft Report to CAAAC

December 1, 2004

CAAAC Meeting

December 16-17, 2004

Final Report to EPA

January 14, 2005

**Co-Chair: Lydia Wegman, EPA/OAQPS Co-Chair: Dave Shaw, NY Dept. of Environmental Conservation** Chuck Collett – National Association of Home Builders Pam Giblin – Baker Botts, LLP Lisa Gomez – Sempra Energy Charles Goodman – Southern Company Generation Ned Helme – Center for Clean Air Policy Carter Keithley - Heart, Patio & Barbecue Association Pat Mariella – Gila River Indian Community Dennis McLerran – Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Mark Morford – Stoel Rives, LLP Chuck Mueller – Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Vickie Patton – Environmental Defense Jim Scherer - Denver Regional Air Quality Council Dick Wilson – National Environmental Strategies Catherine Witherspoon – California Air Resources Board Bob Wyman - Latham & Watkins, LLP

□ Charge: To examine ways to develop a more integrated SIP process and to assess the most appropriate roles for the different levels of government. Including actions EPA, State/Local agencies, Tribes, industry, and the environmental community can take on a local, regional, and national level to improve the SIP process.

- Selected Recommendations of National Academy of Sciences Report
  - Transform the SIP process into a more dynamic and collaborative performance-oriented, multipollutant air quality management plan process
  - Expand national and multi-state performanceoriented control strategies to support local, state, and tribal efforts
  - Develop an integrated program for criteria pollutants and hazardous air pollutants
  - Enhance protection of ecosystems and other aspects of public welfare

#### **Roles for Different Levels of Government**

- State
- Local
- Tribal
- Federal

#### **Roles for Multi-State Organizations**

- How can we build support within individual regions?
- What technical analysis should multi-State organizations perform?
- Should we expand mandate of RPOs beyond regional haze?

#### **Improve the SIP Process**

- Make SIP process more effective, efficient, less burdensome
- Address multiple pollutants
- Develop ideas to streamline the process
- Engage in communication, education activities to build support for newer pollutants (i.e., fine particles, regional haze, some toxics)
- Identify appropriate control strategies



No disapprovals to OMB

Establish a de minimis level for SIP Revisions

Streamline the processing of de minimis SIP revisions by Issuing "letter approvals" for them signed by the RAs

Allow industry to substitute emission reduction controls for more flexible strategies

### □ National Consistency versus Flexibility

- Consider innovative approaches in the SIP process
- Examine state supported voluntary programs
- Address regional variation: Is it desirable?
- Improve coordination: How do EPA and States work together more effectively?

- Ecosystem Protection
  - Consider secondary NAAQS & other ways to provide ecosystem protection
  - Coordinate with Science and Technology Subwork group
- Organizational Question
  - Do we need a separate multi-pollutant group?
  - Division of labor between State/Local issues vs. regional/national issues

### National and Regional Strategies

Selected Recommendations of National Academy of Sciences Report

1. Federal emission-control measures ease State/local burden of attaining and maintaining NAAQS.

2. Several early gains from rate-based federal pollution controls have been offset by growth and other factors and not promoted innovation.

3. Often federal mobile and stationary source controls cover new sources and do not address existing sources that are causing nonattainment.

4. Cap-and-trade has provided a highly cost-effective approach to reducing emissions and preventing them from increasing at national and regional levels that could have further useful applications.

### National and Regional Strategies

#### **Topics to be Addressed:**

- Significant Federal actions within next 3-5 years under the existing Clean Air Act to help States attain/ maintain compliance with the NAAQS in the next 5-10 years.
- Approaches to address areas of Federal action identified under the above issue; make recommendations on viable options for EPA to investigate further.
- Research/categorize types of approaches to air emissions control; consider the general advantages/disadvantages of each.
- Consider different types of emissions controls through standards covering pollutants contributing to nonattainment with the NAAQS; how these rules could be more effective.
- Encourage innovative approaches to compliance.

Co-Chair: Peter Tsirigotis, EPA/OAQPS Co-Chair: Mike Koerber, Lake Michigan Air Potential participants: To be determined

#### **Selected Recommendations of National Academy of Sciences Report**

• No comprehensive program to track emissions and emission trends accurately, resulting in an inability to verify claimed reductions in emissions resulting from implementation of the CAA.

• National network dominated by urban sites limits ability to address important issues, such as documenting national air quality trends and assessing exposure of ecosystems to air pollution.

• Predictive capabilities and usefulness of models to air quality policy-makers are limited by availability and quality of data needed on meteorological conditions and emissions

• AQM system has not invested adequate resources in assessing exposure, relying instead on surrogates, such as attainment of NAAQS to achieve benefits

• AQM system has not developed a method and program to independently document improvements in health and welfare outcomes achieved from improvements in air quality

• Programs to systematically collect information on costs of implementation of the CAA have been inconsistently funded and have been limited in ability to independently validate company estimates of compliance costs

#### □ Findings can be subsumed under three areas of focus:

- Target most significant exposures, risks and uncertainties
- Take integrated multipollutant approach to evaluate multiple pollutants and their interactions.
- Establish performance-oriented system to evaluate progress on a continuous or regular periodic basis, improving associations between improvements and health and welfare outcomes.

**Topics to be Addressed:** 

 Information and analyses to enable EPA and States to identify and evaluate the most probable areas of residual nonattainment, sources of emissions, opportunities for additional control, and relative efficiencies among them.

 Improving characterization of nonattainment on a regional scale to better account for and address pollutant origins/fates to guide the control strategy development process

• Refining approaches to assess transport, deposition and ambient concentrations of air pollution, and link them to ecological and other welfare exposures and effects.

 Analytical methods and tools to support integrated multipollutant prioritization and management of risks, including pollutant interactions and optimizing control strategies for multiple pollutant benefits.

 Techniques and sources of information for evaluating and tracking emissions, air quality, exposures, health and welfare outcomes, and economic impacts to assess and document the effectiveness of control strategies.



□ Other Issues

