



**WASHINGTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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June 27, 2003

RECEIVED

Ms. Judith M. Katz, Director
Air Protection Division (3AP00)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 17108-1086

JUN 30 2003

Air Protection Division (3AP21)

RE: Washington County, Maryland
Early Action Plan Progress Report

Dear Ms. Katz:

This correspondence is the required June 2003 progress report regarding the Washington County, Maryland Early Action Plan. It supplements the County's June 10, 2003 submission to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding progress on our plan to achieve early attainment of the 8 hour ozone standard in Washington County. This plan was submitted to EPA Region 3 on June 11, 2003 via next day delivery June 12, 2003 via FedEx Priority Mail, (Tracking #218), meeting the June 16, 2003 schedule in EPA guidance.

This progress report is a joint effort of Washington County, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT).

Summary of EAP Submittal Approved June 10, 2003

The June 10, 2003 submittal, approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 10, 2003, is incorporated by reference into this Progress Report. A summary of that submittal follows:

- Background of EAC
Summary of federal, state and County rules, guidance, actions
- Description of the Program Area
Geographic location, surrounding jurisdictions, and County demographics
- Background on Existing Control Measures



Listing of the extensive Maryland control measures in existence or in process, per federal requirements for areas in the Northeast Ozone Transport Region and state and local measures; summary of ozone transport issues.

- **Technical Efforts**
Status of emissions inventories, photochemical modeling, and meteorological modeling being conducted.
- **Public Process**
Public participation description and documentation for events through June 11, 2003; listing of Stakeholders and other participants, and summary of the Maryland Attainment Planning Task Force
- **Control Measures Under Consideration**
Listing of potential emissions control measures under consideration by the County and its partner. Developed through the stakeholder process.
- **Demonstrations of Progress**
Statement of plan for bianannual reports to EPA in June and December.
- **Geographic Area**
Geographic area(s) for potential application of additional control measures.
- **Resource Constraints**
Resource constraints identified to date.
- **Appendices**
8 Hour Ozone Concentration maps, Documentation of Public Meetings, and Washington County EAC Control Measure Options

Developments Post June 20, 2003

Additional developments and information included in this report follow.

Stakeholder Process

- The Washington County Department of Planning and Community Development, the lead County Department for the EAP effort will make available to each Stakeholder the June 10 EAC document and solicit input on it along with encouraging their participation in future events.
- The County, in consultation with MDE and MDOT, will develop a schedule of Stakeholder activities, including public meetings, conference calls, and anticipated availability of technical and other information. If and as needed, Stakeholders will be divided into sub-committees to address such issues as: public participation and information, inventory and modeling, review of named and potential emissions

control measures by source, evaluation of emission control measures by source category or other sub-committees subsequently identified.

- The next Stakeholder meeting is scheduled for late summer.
- Another general public informational meeting will be held to solicit input from the general public. Ads regarding the meeting will be placed on the County Web Site as well as in the local newspaper on the local public information TV channel.

Progress on Evaluating and Selecting Emissions Reduction Measures for the Local Control Measures

- Identification of federal, OTC and state developments which may influence or impact the control measure analyses or decisions.
- The Washington County Department of Planning and Community Development, MDE and MDOT continued their ongoing dialogue on potential control measures. Staff discussions included potential approaches to data acquisition, estimation of emission reductions, evaluating candidate measures, potential control measures and related technical efforts.
- The geographic area of interest includes portions of the states of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, as stated in the June 11 submittal.
- Data gathering activities to quantify activity levels and model emissions, including all mobile sources, has commenced. Relevant data from the County and MDOT State Highway Administration and Mass Transit Administration databases have been or will be requested, motor vehicle fleet information has been downloaded from the MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration, and environmental data (e.g., temperature, humidity) has been requested from MDE.
- Ongoing review of implementation issues for potential control measures, such as resources available and implementation schedules.
- MDOT has commenced to provide consultant assistance to assist in the technical evaluation of potential control measures (and other aspects of the EAP development process), and is in the process of finalizing a refined task order to a consulting team currently under contract to MDOT.

Public Outreach and Information

- Washington County will develop appropriate pages on its website at <http://www.washco-md.net>, with links or references to other relevant sites (County, state and federal). Relevant information from stakeholder meetings, technical efforts and County decisions will be posted here.

The web site is an excellent source of information regarding all aspects of county government and services. This includes information relevant to the EAP, including, but not limited to, transportation options, community development, economic development and County Commissioner meetings (agendas, summaries, minutes, email notification service).

Also see Stakeholder Process, above.

Status of Modeling and Related Technical Planning Activities

- Emissions inventory and photochemical modeling efforts continue as described in the June 10, 2003 submittal, and are on schedule for completion and submittal to EPA by August 31, 2003
- MDE, the lead Maryland agency for these modeling efforts in conjunction with Virginia and West Virginia) has briefed and will continue to brief EPA Region 3 on relevant items, and seek and receive EPA concurrence as necessary.

Other Activities

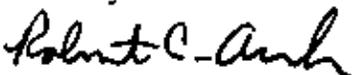
- Future biannual reports are due to EPA on December 31 and June 30, through 2007. The County/MDE/MDOT team will contribute to each submittal, and the County will submit the final report to EPA.
- Development of final schedule of major activities and associated milestones. This is anticipated to include staff efforts, stakeholder activities, public meetings, availability of documents, review and approval by relevant bodies.

Summary

The EAC process contains all necessary components and is on schedule for the next major milestone, the submittal of the local Early Action Plan by Washington County to MDE for inclusion in the State Implementation Plan by March 31, 2004.

Please contact me should you desire additional information. We look forward to completing our Early Action Plan.

Sincerely



Robert C. Arch

Director Department of Planning and Community Development

Cc: Tad Aburn, MDE
Howard Simons, MDOT
Jim Frazier, Michael Baker Jr., Inc.