
**TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP
of the
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**January 22, 2013
Minutes**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP. A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Meeting of the Transportation Conformity Working Group was held at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.

In Attendance:

Abrishami, Lori	Metro
Cooper, Keith	ICF
Nord, Greg	OCTA

SCAG

Block, Justine
Kuo, Ryan
Luo, Rongsheng
Nadler, Jonathan
Sherwood, Arnie

Via Teleconference:

Brady, Mike	Caltrans Headquarters
Castro, Fernando	Caltrans, District 7
Cacatian, Ben	VCAPCD
Crow, Jason	ARB
Gallo, Ilene	Caltrans, District 11
O'Connor, Karina	EPA, Region 9
Sonnenberg, Stew	FWHA
Tax, Wienke	EPA, Region 9
Walecka, Carla	TCA
Yoon, Andrew	Caltrans, District 7

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Greg Nord, OCTA, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 TCWG September 25, 2012 Meeting Minutes
The minutes were approved.

3.2 TCWG October 23, 2012 Meeting Minutes
The minutes were approved.

3.3 TCWG November 27, 2012 Meeting Minutes
This item was pulled from the agenda at the meeting.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

1) SBD20111625

It was tentatively determined that this is not a POAQC pending clarifications from project lead agency and concurrence from Caltrans, District 8.

4.2 FTIP Update

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, reported the following on behalf of John Asuncion, SCAG:

- 2013 FTIP was approved by the federal agencies in mid-December 2012.
- 2013 FTIP Amendment #13-01 had received state approval and was under review for federal approval.
- 2013 FTIP Administrative Modification #13-02 was approved on December 19, 2012.
- 2013 FTIP Amendment #13-03 was being analyzed by SCAG staff and public review of the Amendment was anticipated at the end of January.

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4.3 RTP Update

Ryan Kuo, SCAG, reported the following:

- FTIP Amendment #13-04 will serve as FTIP Consistency Amendment to 2012-2034 RTP/SCS Amendment No. 1.
- Draft release of the RTP/SCS and FTIP Consistency Amendments is anticipated in April and adoption in June.

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, reported the following:

- The new area designations for the 2008 8-hour ozone standards became effective July 20, 2012.
- Transportation conformity needs to be re-determined for the 2012-2035 RTP/SCS and 2013 FTIP by July 20, 2013.
- Seven areas were designated as nonattainment areas within the SCAG region under the new ozone standards with different attainment years that need to be modeled:
 - ✓ Imperial County (Marginal, attainment year 2015)
 - ✓ West Mojave Desert Air Basin (Severe, attainment year 2027)
 - ✓ South Coast Air Basin (Extreme, attainment year 2032)
 - ✓ Coachella Valley (Severe, attainment year 2027)
 - ✓ Ventura County (Serious, attainment year 2021)
 - ✓ Morongo Areas of Indian Country (Morongo Band of Missions Indians) (Serious, attainment year 2021)
 - ✓ Pechanga Areas of Indian Country (Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pechanga Reservation) (Moderate, attainment year 2018)
- SCAG had performed transportation conformity re-determination analysis for the 2012-2035 RTP/SCS and 2013 FTIP including modeling and emissions analysis for these new attainment years.
- Draft analysis is under internal review and is scheduled to be released for a 15-day public review next week.
- Modeling and emissions analysis for these new nonattainment areas and attainment years will also be reflected in the 2012-2035 RTP/SCS Amendment No. 1.

In response to a question, Mr. Luo, SCAG, clarified that the conformity re-determination analysis is for the five non-Indian Country nonattainment areas; The Indian Country nonattainment areas required additional conformity analysis which will be released at a later date for public review.

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4.4 EPA Update

Tax Wienke, EPA, reported the following:

- EPA lost a court case on January 4, 2013 in the DC Circuit Court relating to the PM2.5 Implementation Rules which regulate SIP planning and permitting.
- The Court vacated the current rules and remanded EPA to redo the rules based on Subpart 4 of the Clean Air Act.
- EPA was analyzing the complicated implications of the court ruling and expected impact on approved, received, and upcoming PM2.5 SIPs.

In response to a question, Ms. Tax, EPA, confirmed that there would be potential impact on the 2012 South Coast AQMP scheduled to be submitted to EPA; there might be other requirements that would need to be fulfilled as a supplement to what was being adopted; and deadlines will be different under Subpart 4.

Karina O’Conner, EPA, reported the following:

- EPA had published a proposed approval of Imperial County’s dust rules and a temporary stay of highway sanctions imposed in Imperial County on January 7, 2013.
- The public comment period of the proposed rules would end February 6, 2013.
- If the actions would be finalized as proposed, EPA’s final rules will terminate the highway sanctions permanently.

In response to a question, Ms. Karina O’Conner stated that there was no new update regarding the South Coast Sanctions Clock.

4.5 ARB Update

Jason Crow, ARB, reported the following:

- ARB was scheduled to act this Friday on the 2012 South Coast AQMP which includes the new PM2.5 budgets for 2014.
- EPA was moving forward with the EMFAC2011 approval process.

In response to a question, Ms. O’Connor, EPA, stated that EMFAC2011 is anticipated to be approved before the new PM2.5 budgets, which are based on EMFAC2011, will be approved.

In response to a separate question, Mr. Crow, ARB, confirmed that the EPA approval will include the model component for generating project-level emission factors and the information was planned to be posted on ARB’s website as soon as possible.

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- 4.6 Air Districts Update
Ben Cacatian, VCAPCD, stated that VCAPCD had no new update.

5.0 **INFORMATION SHARING**

Arnie Sherwood, SCAG, reported that the SCAQMD's session on technology and transportation at the Transportation Research Board Conference in Washington DC last week was extremely well done.

In response to a request from Andrew Yoon, Caltrans District 7, it was clarified by TCWG that a memo with detailed comparison between the revised alternative and the originally approved alternative for LA0B951 would be adequate and no revised qualitative analysis is needed.

Jonathan Nadler and Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, acknowledged and thanked Greg Nord, OCTA, for chairing TCWG meetings over the last twelve months.

6.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50am.

The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday February 26, 2012 at the SCAG office in downtown Los Angeles.