

Tier 2 Consultation Meeting  
Thursday, January 13, 2005

Participants

Vanessa Adams	FTA
Patricia Berry	CATS
Bill Brown	NIRPC (by phone)
Ken Dallmeyer	NIRPC (by phone)
Doug Ferguson	CATS
Jon-Paul Kohler	FHWA
Patricia Morris	USEPA (by phone)
Mark Pitstick	RTA
Mike Rogers	IEPA
Gordon Smith	IDOT
Steve Strains	NIRPC
Kermit Wies	CATS

1. Approval of the November 4, 2004 meeting summary

The consultation team approved the fifth draft November 4, 2004 meeting summary. Regarding planning assumptions, it was noted that the 2001 data was assembled in 2002 for use in the 2003 SIP update and conformity work and the 2006 data likely will not be pulled together until 2007, so the five-year interval is really 2002-2007, not 2001-2006.

2. 2030 RTP Update

Mr. Wies reported that the RTP update time table is being driven by the regulatory requirements of the conformity schedule. There is interest in examining various scenarios within the RTP update, but there are not enough resources for that at this time. NIPC's Common Ground effort is behind schedule.

3. 8-hour Conformity Schedule and required two-year TIP update

Ms. Berry reported that the conformity analysis for the 8-hour ozone standard is complete and the 2030 RTP and FY 04-09 TIP were found to conform. Staff is working on the documentation so that the schedule for the conformity determination can be expedited. Staff will e-mail the documentation to the consultation team so that comments may be incorporated prior to presentation to the Work Program Committee (WPC). The public comment period is proposed for January 24, 2005 through February 24, 2005. The WPC is scheduled to meet before the end of the public comment period on February 18, 2005. Since the conformity determination does not include any new projects, it is likely that any comments will be on the process. A consultation team meeting is proposed for after the public comment period ends but before the March 10, 2005 Policy Committee meeting to review any comments and the proposed response.

Ms. Berry and Ms. Morris reiterated agreements on signal interconnect and Illinois Tollway projects made subsequent to the January team meeting. Signal interconnect projects that have been added to the TIP since the October 2003 approval of the one-hour ozone conformity determination will be listed as "to be conformed" and will be included in the full analysis to be undertaken for the 2030 RTP update and the FY 2006-2010 TIP. Illinois Tollway projects will remain in the analysis years used for

the one-hour ozone conformity determination until the full conformity analysis is undertaken—currently scheduled for approval by October 2006.

The two-year TIP update is scheduled to be considered for release for public comment at the March Policy Committee meeting. This schedule could not be expedited due to the volatility of transit funding. It is anticipated that the Policy Committee will consider approval of the FY 05-09 TIP at its June meeting. Implementers have been asked to limit TIP changes during this period. The deadline for the TIP update is October 2005.

#### 4. PM 2.5 Standard

Ms. Berry asked if Ms. Morris had an update on anticipated guidance for the PM2.5 standard. Ms. Morris said that the basics of the PM2.5 standard are in a rule already finalized--the July 2004 amendment to the conformity rules. A decision is still needed as to whether re-entrained road dust is significant in the Chicago-land area. The USEPA will be looking to the IEPA for help on making that decision. The precursors and hot spot parts are not finalized but the USEPA expects those to be finalized by the time the designations are effective on April 5, 2005.

Ms. Berry stated that staff will request WPC approval of comments on the December 13, 2004 supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking at its January meeting. Mr. Patrosky is working with Mr. Rogers on those comments.

Ms. Berry asked if there was anything CATS could do to assure that an “action/baseline” analysis is not required. Ms. Morris said that it has already been established that there is a choice of less than baseline or build/no-build. She quoted the rule which states that “for each analysis year and for each of the pollutants one of the following requirements is met...” The rule gives a choice of action/baseline or action scenario comparison to 2002 emissions. The quote is from the July 1, 2004 rule and is located on page 40080 in section 93.119.

Mr. Wies asked about the attainment year for PM2.5 and if the scenario years for the next analysis would be different than those used for the one just completed (2007, 2010, 2012, 2020, 2030). Ms. Morris’ replied affirmatively--2009 should be included. Mr. Rogers said 2012 may not be necessary since the requirement for 2012 came about because it was going to be the end of a maintenance period for the 1-hour ozone standard and northeastern Illinois never made it to designation as a maintenance area. Mr. Wies then re-stated for clarity that 2007, 2009, 2010, 2020 and 2030 will be the analysis years for the next full analysis and for PM2.5. Mr. Rogers said 2010 would not be necessary, because we have to attain the 8-hour standard by June 15, 2010. To make it by 2010, the region would need clean data for the ozone seasons of 2007, 2008 and 2009 and we have to be in attainment by the ozone season of 2010. Ms. Morris agreed, but noted that an interim year is need before 2020 which could be 2010. The same would hold true for PM2.5.

Ms. Berry said a discussion on the schedule for the PM2.5 conformity requirement will be on the next consultation agenda.

#### 5. 2000 Census

Ms. Berry stated that it’s likely that the whole of Kendall County will be coming into the metropolitan planning area. We expect the county to take action in February and then the Policy Committee to take action in March. The only outstanding item we have of

the five that were identified is the agreement with SEWRPC to document the existing cooperative relationship and we will go ahead and try to get the work done on that. Ms. Berry asked if an agreement had been made for 2005 between the RTA and southeastern Wisconsin on FTA funds that were used entirely by RTA in 2003 and split in 2004. Mr. Pitstick said the agreement for 2005 has yet to be finalized.

#### 6. Certification

The federal certification review will be occurring this year. The recommendations from the October 2003 certification review were distributed and Mr. Kohler asked for a summary of actions taken to date. Ms. Adams and Mr. Kohler are working on setting a schedule and hope that the new FHWA planner (Mr. Call's replacement) would be in place to participate. During the last review, USDOT distributed a letter and schedule in March 2002. The process this year will likely be on a similar timetable.

#### 7. Other Business

None.

#### 8. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the consultation team is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 1, 2005 at 10:30.