

Tier 2 Consultation Meeting

Friday, August 2, 2002 9:00 AM
CATS Southeastern (Sun) Conference Room
Final Meeting Summary

Participants

Vanessa Adams	FTA
Patricia Berry	CATS
Randy Blankenhorn	IDOT
Linda Bolte	CATS
Steve Call	FHWA
Dean B. Englund	CATS
Patricia Morris	USEPA
Mark Pitstick	RTA
Mike Rogers	IEPA
Mike Walczak	CATS
Kevin Ward	FHWA

1. Approval of May 2 and June 5, 2002 meeting summaries

The second draft of the June 5 meeting summary was distributed. The May 2 meeting summary was not available and action on both sets of meeting summaries was deferred until the next meeting.

2. MOBILE6 Budgets and Redesignation Status

Mr. Rogers distributed a packet illustrating the 2000-2002 1-hour exceedances in the Lake Michigan basin through July 23, 2002. Ozone exceedances during the June 22 weekend resulted in at least one violation in northeastern Illinois and thus IEPA's redesignation request for the region has been withdrawn.

Mr. Rogers reviewed the packet with the consultation team and discussed both the 1-hour and 8-hour standards.

Work on the MOBILE6 budgets will proceed. NIPC's socioeconomic file shows a lot more trips from Indiana to northeastern Illinois in the future and the overall VMT may be higher. To date, neither IEPA nor CATS has a very high level of comfort with the MOBILE6 model. OTAQ and Ms. Morris have asked that the region use more specific data in place of the defaults. All are trying to go up the learning curve with this model to determine what effects various inputs have. IEPA plans to have the adequacy determination and the SIP revision done by spring 2003.

Mr. Englund said he has drafted a macro to produce VMT. He noted that when the AMPO group was at CATS it became clear from discussions that no one has done much with MOBILE6 to date. Attempts will be made to use the same VMT and other parameter inputs and compare the outputs between the old MOBILE

model and the new one. Mr. Englund noted that a lot of MPOs spoke about the difficulties they were having obtaining vehicle registration information. He asked if it would be possible to collapse vehicle types. Mr. Rogers said that the metro east area of the St. Louis region is ahead of us because of their earlier RTP update schedule. IEPA has been working to identify where it is acceptable to stick with the defaults. There are five or six critical elements including temperature, humidity, control programs, the VMT mix and the vehicle age distribution.

Ms. Morris asked what Mr. Englund's preference would be regarding use of defaults. Mr. Englund said we have eight time periods available, but he wants to review the output of the model. He has run different scenarios at different speeds. Facility type and vehicle type are other dimensions of the table. The question is emission rate outputs – we may realize that in the overnight period we may need to shift to the edges or we may be okay. Mr. Rogers said this is the type of input IEPA needs. Mr. Englund said he didn't think we needed to break the vehicle types out by hour. Mr. Rogers said three time frames were used in the metro east area because that's their capacity. Since CATS has data broken out into eight time periods, that's even better

In response to Mr. Blankenhorn's question from the June 5, 2002 meeting regarding the projected increase in off-road engine emissions, Mr. Rogers noted that some errors in control factors were initially made but when they were corrected, the off-road emissions are projected to decrease.

Mr. Rogers said that a notice of public hearing will be released September 15 with a public hearing scheduled for October 15 for the Metro East area. IEPA will be going forward with a redesignation petition for the southwestern Illinois region that will be submitted in December so that an adequacy determination will be available in February.

Mr. Rogers noted that the high court struck down USEPA extensions. Since the metro east area has had exceedances but no violations, the redesignation request will go forward with the budgets. He suggested that it may be good to move forward with northeastern Illinois' actions on the same timetable as St. Louis'. Mr. Englund said he should be ready by the end of the month to begin running MOBILE6. Mr. Blankenhorn asked if the extension policy is under appeal and Ms. Morris said it is not.

Mr. Englund and Mr. Rogers said they would be working together on IEPA's budget development process. Ms. Bolte said CATS would need to know what the target number is in the spring of 2003. Mr. Rogers said since the budgets are needed at least by September of 2003 and there are so many steps to the process, IEPA would like to do its hearing in the fall of 2002.

Mr. Rogers noted that the one year anniversary of the release of MOBILE6 is January 29, 2003. After that date, the region must use MOBILE6 for any conformity determinations.

3. Other Business

A short discussion of what the no-build or do-nothing network will look like ensued. All agreed that while the conformity definition of no-build is existing plus committed projects, it is recognized that there are alternative views of what existing and committed means. CATS staff will work with the RTP committees to develop a definition to bring to the consultation team.