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

**February 26, 2013  
Minutes**

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**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
Nord, Greg	OCTA

**SCAG**

Asuncion, John  
Kuo, Ryan  
Luo, Rongsheng  
Sherwood, Arnie

**Via Teleconference:**

Alvarez, Grace	RCTC
Brady, Mike	Caltrans Headquarters
Cacatian, Ben	VCAPCD
Crow, Jason	ARB
Dehate, Eric	RCTC
Drummonds, Eyvonne	SCAQMD
Fagan, Paul	Caltrans, District 8
Higgins, Kathryn	SCAQMD
Lay, Keith	LSA Associates
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 November 27, 2012 Meeting Minutes  
The minutes were approved.

**4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS**

4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

1) LA0C8080

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

2) ORA020825

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

3) RIV091011\_corrections

Corrections were approved by TCWG via email on February 19, 2013.

4.2 Review of PM Hot Spot Qualitative Analysis

1) LA0B951\_reaffirmation

TCWG concurred with the evaluation of the emissions estimate for the preferred alternative via email on February 13, 2013.

4.3 Update PM Conformity Hot Spot Analysis Project Summary Form for Interagency Consultation

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, reported the following:

- The “NEPA Delegation – Project Type” section of the PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Form was updated as suggested by Mike Brady, Caltrans Headquarters.
- Another major revision was made to the citation for Criteria for Projects of Air Quality Concerns under instructions/Reference for the form.

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- Any comments or additional revisions should be emailed to SCAG by the end of this week.
- The revisions will be finalized next week.

4.4 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- FTIP Amendment #3 was under federal review for approval.
- County submittals for the next FTIP amendment were due to SCAG next week Tuesday.

4.5 RTP Update

Ryan Kuo, SCAG, reported the following:

- RTP/SCS Amendment No. 1 is expected to go to SCAG's Transportation Committee (TC) for a draft release in April with adoption anticipated in June.
- The six RTP/SCS Subcommittees started to wrap up, including preparing policy recommendations to be presented to SCAG's policy committees.
- The request to explore the creation of an aviation subcommittee from Councilman Alan Wapner, TC Vice Chair, will be brought back to TC in March for consideration.

4.6 2012-2035 RTP/SCS and 2013 FTIP Conformity Re-determination for 2008 8-hour Ozone NAAQS

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG has completed the required conformity analysis for the new 2008 8-hour ozone standards.
- The 2012-2035 RTP/SCS and 2013 FTIP Conformity Re-determination Draft Report was released for a 15-day public review ending February 15, 2013. No comments were received by the close of the public comment period.
- The conformity analysis demonstrates that the 2012-2035 RTP/SCS and 2013 FTIP meet all the federal requirements. Specifically:
  - ✓ The RTP/SCS and FTIP pass the additional required emissions tests for the five non-Indian Country ozone non-attainment areas in the SCAG region under the new 8-hour ozone standards;
  - ✓ The conformity analysis also reaffirms all other applicable conformity findings for the RTP/SCS and FTIP including consistency with the adopted RTP/SCS, regional emissions analyses, financial constraints, timely implementation of TCMs, and interagency consultation and public participation;

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- The RTP/SCS and FTIP Conformity Re-determination was being presented to TCWG today for additional interagency consultation.
- The RTP/SCS and FTIP Conformity Re-determination Final Report will be presented to SCAG's Energy and Environment Committee and Regional Council for approval on March 7, 2013.
- SCAG was also performing the required conformity analysis for the remaining two Indian Country ozone non-attainment areas. The final conformity determination for these two Indian Country non-attainment areas will also serve as an amendment to the RTP/SCS and FTIP Conformity Re-determination Report.

4.7 EPA Update

Karina O'Conner, EPA, reported the following:

- EPA's Regional Administrator signed a Federal Register (FR) notice on February 22 approving the EMFAC2011 model.
- A six month grace period will start on the day of publication. Both EMFAC2007 and EMFAC2011 models can be used during the grace period.

In response to a question, Ms. O'Connor clarified that the FR notice applies to both regional and project-level conformity.

Tax Wienke, EPA, reported the following:

- EPA received the 2012 South Coast AQMP last week which includes PM2.5 attainment demonstration SIP for 2006 standards, 1-hour ozone attainment demonstration, and 1-hour and 8-hour ozone VTM offset demonstrations

In response to a question, Ms. Wienke stated that there were no new updates on the South Coast Sanction Clocks and EPA could take actions similarly to the Imperial County Highway Sanctions and propose a stay of the sanctions if necessary.

4.8 ARB Update

Jason Crow, ARB, reported the following:

- ARB had started working on EMFAC2013.
- A workshop on EMFAC2013 was planned in April and in the fall respectively, followed by beta testing with an anticipated release in late 2013 or early 2014

In response to a question, Mr. Crow clarified that EMFAC2011 will be used for the GHG emissions reduction target settings for the next RTP/SCS; an updated version

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of EMFAC2011 was available in January 2013 with minor corrections on motorcycles in Santa Clara County.

Ms. O'Connor, EPA, added the following:

- EPA is in the process of updating the Quantitative Hot Spot Analysis Guidance to incorporate EMFAC2011.
- An additional training session on using EMFAC2011 is planned for Southern California later this year.

4.9 Air Districts Update

Eyvonne Drummonds, SCAQMD, reported the following:

- 2012 South Coast AQMP was approved by the District's Governing Board in December 2012.
- The Ports Back-stop Measure, taken out from the December approval, was reviewed and adopted by the Governing Board in February.
- AQMD held the first meeting on 2015 South Coast AQMP on January 29, 2013.
- The 2015 AQMP will focus on the 2008 8-hour ozone standards.

In response to a question, Ms. Tax, EPA, clarified that the 2012 South Coast AQMP submittal that EPA had received does not include the Ports Back-stop Measure.

Ben Cacatian, VCAPCD, reported that a Ventura County project for pedestrian and bicycle improvements had been determined ineligible for CMAQ funds and may need a TCM substitution.

Mr. Luo, SCAG, clarified that as long as the scope and completion date of the project remain the same, there is no need for a TCM substitution.

5.0 **INFORMATION SHARING**

Mike Brady, Caltrans Headquarters, announced that the next Statewide Transportation Conformity Working Group Meeting will be held on March 13, 2013, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, announced that SCAG planned to hold an interagency consultation meeting among key stakeholders including Morongo, Pechanga, EPA, FHWA, Caltrans Headquarters, Caltrans District 8, RCTC, and SCAG regarding conformity determination for the two Indian Country ozone nonattainment areas.

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6.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35am.

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