



401 B Street, Suite 800  
San Diego, CA 92101-4231  
(619) 699-1900  
Fax (619) 699-1905  
www.sandag.org

November 16, 2009

File Number 3100600

TO: San Diego Region Conformity Working Group

FROM: Andrea Hoff, Regional Planner II

SUBJECT: Cancellation of the December 2, 2009, San Diego Region Conformity Working Group (CWG) Meeting

MEMBER AGENCIES

- Cities of
- Carlsbad
- Chula Vista
- Coronado
- Del Mar
- El Cajon
- Encinitas
- Escondido
- Imperial Beach
- La Mesa
- Lemon Grove
- National City
- Oceanside
- Poway
- San Diego
- San Marcos
- Santee
- Solana Beach
- Vista
- and
- County of San Diego

The CWG meeting, originally scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, 2009, has been cancelled. The next scheduled meeting date is Wednesday, January 6, 2010.

The CWG meeting minutes from November 4, 2009, are attached for your information.

If you have questions or a specific issue or topic that you would like to discuss at a future meeting, do not hesitate to contact me at (619) 699-1983 or via e-mail at ahof@sandag.org.

AHO/ama

Attachment

ADVISORY MEMBERS

- Imperial County
- California Department of Transportation
- Metropolitan Transit System
- North County Transit District
- United States Department of Defense
- San Diego Unified Port District
- San Diego County Water Authority
- Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association
- Mexico

**Item #1: Introductions**

Self-introductions were made. See attached attendance list.

**Item #2: Summary of August 12, 2009, Meeting**

Andrea Hoff, SANDAG, asked the CWG to review the meeting summary. No corrections were made.

**Item #3: Public Comments/Communications**

There were no public comments made.

**Item #4: 2008 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) Amendment No. 16 Regional Emissions Analysis and Modeling Procedures (Draft)**

At the October 7, 2009, CWG meeting, the group discussed the conformity criteria and procedures to be followed to determine conformity of the 2008 RTIP Amendment No. 16 and to redetermine conformity of the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). SANDAG staff presented information about the travel demand model, growth forecast update, public involvement and outreach, financial assumptions, latest emissions model and emissions budgets, list of capacity-increasing projects, list of exempt projects, and transportation control measures.

The draft conformity analysis document for Amendment No. 16, Attachment 4 in the agenda packet (page 13), was released to the CWG for a 30-day comment period on October 30, 2009. The CWG was asked to review the draft document and provide comments at the meeting. Additional comments should be provided to SANDAG in writing by the close of the comment period on November 30, 2009.

Ms. Hoff first presented the list of capacity-increasing projects that were included in the conformity analysis for Amendment No. 16. The same list of projects was sent out to the CWG on October 6 and prior to the November 4 meeting. The first project is a California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) project, State Route (SR) 78 Auxiliary Lanes, and the reason for its addition to the amendment is cited as 'include capacity-increasing information.'

Pat Landrum, Caltrans, asked how the project had changed from its description in Amendment No. 15.

Elisa Arias, SANDAG, said that Sookyung Kim, the SANDAG staff person responsible for preparing the list, is not at the meeting, but staff would ask her for this information and relay that information to the group via e-mail.

Ms. Hoff said the next three projects are new projects located in the City of Oceanside and include two road-widening projects and one project that widens SR 78. The following five projects listed are located in the County of San Diego. The first four projects have revised their project descriptions,

and the fifth listed is a new project. The City of San Diego added one project to list in order to increase funding shown in the RTIP. The last two projects are located in the City of San Marcos and are seeking to change the funding amount or revise the funding allocations between fiscal years.

Mr. Landrum asked when the 2008 RTIP Amendment No. 15 was approved.

Ms. Hoff said that she did not know the exact approval date. She stated that she would e-mail the approval date to the group.

Ms. Hoff asked the group to refer to page 13 in the agenda to review and comment on the 2008 RTIP Amendment No. 16 Regional Emissions Analysis draft document. Most of the changes that were made to the document were text changes made to maintain consistency within the document. The substantive changes made are toward the end of the document and contain the new emissions analysis numbers.

Ms. Hoff noted that Mr. Selnick provided a suggested change to the text on page 14 of the agenda packet (page 2 of the draft document). He suggested bringing the paragraph up to date by adding the exact date of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) proposal to reclassify areas, including San Diego under Subpart 2 instead of Subpart 1. He suggested revising the paragraph to read:

"On April 15, 2004, the EPA designated the San Diego air basin as nonattainment for the new 8-Hour Ozone Standard. This designation took effect on June 15, 2004. Several areas that are tribal lands in eastern San Diego County were excluded from the nonattainment designation. As shown in Figure 1, La Posta Areas #1 and #2, Cuyapaibe, Manzanita, and Campo Areas #1 and #2 are attainment areas for the 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS.

The air basin was initially classified as a basic nonattainment area under Subpart 1 of the Clean Air Act and the maximum statutory attainment date for the 8-Hour Ozone Standard was set as June 15, 2009. However, the EPA is responding to a court decision and, on January 16, 2009, proposed that, among other areas of the country, the San Diego basic nonattainment area will be reclassified as a Subpart 2 moderate nonattainment area, with a maximum statutory attainment date of June 15, 2010. Final EPA action on this proposed reclassification is yet to be taken."

Ms. Arias stated that, as the amendment moves through the approval process, any dates or wording that become dated will be corrected.

Ms. Hoff referred to Table 2 on page 26 of the agenda packet, which shows emissions budgets and results for reactive organic gases (ROG) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) as part of the 8-Hour Ozone Standard conformity analysis. Changes to this table included: deletion of analysis year data for 2008; update of the average weekday vehicle starts and miles for 2010, 2020, and 2030; and, update of the projected ROG and NOx emissions. All projected emissions levels are well below the established budgets for ROG and NOx for the region.

Ms. Hoff also reviewed information on Table 3 on page 27 of the agenda, which provides emissions levels for carbon monoxide for the 2008 RTIP Amendment No. 16 and RTP conformity redetermination.

Ms. Hoff stated that the adjustment factors for ROG and NO<sub>x</sub> shown in Table 4 were applied to the emissions analysis.

Ms. Hoff stated that Table 5, containing exempt projects, was distributed at the October 7 CWG meeting and, as indicated in the footnote on page 29 of the agenda, may be updated after the December 3 deadline for jurisdictions to turn in exempt projects. The updated list of exempt projects will be e-mailed to the group for review at that time.

Ms. Hoff summarized the information contained in the bulleted list of schedule items on page 30 of the agenda. On October 7, 2009, SANDAG staff presented information on the criteria and procedures to be followed for the conformity analysis of the 2008 RTIP Amendment No. 16 and conformity redetermination of the 2030 RTP. The preliminary exempt project list also was distributed to the CWG.

Ms. Hoff noted an error in the third bullet in the section: SANDAG released the draft air quality conformity analysis for a 30-day review and comment period along with mail out of the November 4, 2009, agenda packet on October 30 (not October 29). The following bullet also contains a typo in the last sentence. The sentence should state that the 30-day public comment period should end on January 9 instead of January 6. The *TransNet* Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee will be presented the 2008 RTIP Amendment No. 16 for input on January 13, 2010. The SANDAG Transportation Committee will be asked to recommend approval of the 2008 RTIP Amendment No. 16 and its conformity determination to the Board of Directors on January 15, 2010. The Board of Directors will be asked to approve the 2008 RTIP Amendment No. 16, its conformity determination, and conformity redetermination of the 2030 RTP at its January 22, 2010, meeting.

#### **Item #5: Emission Factors (EMFAC) 2010 Development**

Dennis Wade, California Air Resources Board, stated that development of the EMFAC 2010 model continues, and it is anticipated that the draft be released in mid-2010 with submission to the EPA by the end of 2010.

Ms. Arias asked if he had any additional information about steps to take regarding the differences between the EMFAC model horizon year and that of local transportation plans (which is 2050 in San Diego).

Mr. Wade stated that discussions regarding that issue are underway, particularly as the issue relates to Senate Bill 375, but he did not have additional information at this time.

#### **Item #6: 8-Hour Ozone Standard Reclassification Update**

John Kelly, EPA, stated that upper management at the EPA had been briefed on the issue of 8-Hour Ozone Standard Reclassification. Utility groups have requested more time for State Implementation Plan (SIP) submittals and attainment. Mr. Kelly said that no more time would be allowed for

attainment or submittals. He said that the San Diego region would be 'basic' for a while as the overall discussions move forward.

Carl Selnick, San Diego Air Pollution Control District, stated that he is working on a moderate SIP for the region and plans to request a 'bump up.' He stated he would like to be aware of any changes to be made by the EPA which would impact his planned approach. His main concern is that the modeling would not be done in time to prepare a SIP for a different classification.

**Item #7: Final Area Designations for the 24-Hour Fine Particulate Standard Established in 2006**

Ms. Hoff stated that on October 8, 2009, the EPA issued final area designations for the 24-hour national air quality standards for fine particulate matter (PM 2.5) and has identified areas as either nonattainment, unclassifiable/attainment, or unclassifiable. The San Diego air basin is designated as unclassifiable/attainment. She asked Mr. Kelly if he would address this issue.

Mr. Kelly stated that in other areas of the country, some areas are called 'unclassifiable' because the monitoring data is not available or the boundaries have not been finalized. But, San Diego will not change as a result of new data. He anticipates that in the November 13, 2009, *Federal Register*, the EPA will publish an effective date for these designations.

**Item #8: Next Meeting**

Ms. Hoff stated that the next meeting of the CWG is scheduled for December 2, 2009, from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Meeting materials will be sent to the group in advance.

Attachment: 1. San Diego Region Conformity Working Group Meeting Attendance, November 4, 2009

Key Staff Contact: Andrea Hoff, (619) 699-1983, ahof@sandag.org

## San Diego Region Conformity Working Group

Meeting Attendance

November 4, 2009

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Dennis Wade (phone)	ARB
Pat Landrum (phone)	Caltrans
Jose Marquez	Caltrans
Jane Dowda	Caltrans
Ken Johansen	Caltrans
Mike Brady (phone)	Caltrans
Andrea Hoff	SANDAG
Elisa Arias	SANDAG
Carla Walecka (phone)	TCA
John Kelly (phone)	U.S. EPA
Michael Morris	FHWA
Carl Selnick	SDAPCD