

APPENDIX 14

**Interagency Conformity Consultation
Process**

HGB Area
Consultative Partners Conference call
February 11, 2020

Attendees

H-GAC: Graciela Lubertino, Chris Van Slyke, Adam Beckom, Frank Pagliei, Vishu Lingala

EPA: Jeff Riley

FHWA-TX: Jose Campos

TCEQ: Jamie Zech, Mary McGarry-Barber

TTI: Madhu Venugopal

TxDOT: Charles Airiohuodion, Raymond Sanchez, Laura Norton, Kent McLemore; Jeff English

METRO: Vincent Sanders

Meeting Background

The MPO will be developing an amendment to the transportation plan, the 2045 RTP and 2021-2024 TIP. This amendment is mainly due to the need of moving major projects, like the I-45 Segment 2, from conformity year 2040 to conformity year 2030, starting construction during 2021/2022 time period.

Meeting Purpose

The topic of the conference call was to discuss the years that will be modeled, the emissions budgets that will be used, and to go over the timeline. H-GAC requested new data to TTI for the conformity calculation.

Meeting Consensus

The selected conformity years (the same as last conformity) are the following:

2020 (attainment year for the 2015 & 2008 Ozone NAAQS)

2030 (interim)

2040 (interim)

2045 (horizon year for the plan).

Need to demonstrate conformity to both, 2008 and 2015 NAAQS.

This conformity will be using the 2008 Ozone NAAQS budgets for the year 2017.

The validation year for the travel demand model will be 2016, as in the previous conformity.

H-GAC made a data request to TTI for updated VMT Mix, hourly factors, TxLED adjustment factors, seasonal adjustment factors, fuel properties. All this updated data needs to be calculated using the newest vehicle registration data.

Miscellaneous Discussion Items

None

HGB Area
Consultative Partners Conference call
November 10, 2020

Attendees

H-GAC: Graciela Lubertino, Chris Van Slyke, Adam Beckom, Vishu Lingala

EPA:

FHWA-TX: Jose Campos, Barbara Maley

TCEQ: Jamie Zech, Mary McGarry-Barber

TTI: Madhu Venugopal Dennis Perkinson, Andrew Birt,

TxDOT: Charles Airiohuodion, Raymond Sanchez, Laura Norton, Tim Woods, Heng Wang

METRO: Vincent Sanders

Meeting Background

The MPO will be developing an amendment to the transportation plan, the 2045 RTP and 2021-2024 TIP. This amendment is mainly due to the need of moving major projects, like the I-45 Segment 2, from conformity year 2040 to conformity year 2030, starting construction during 2021/2022 time period.

Meeting Purpose

The topic of the conference call was to discuss the pre-analysis consensus document (Appendix 17) and the possibility of a new MVEB being approved by EPA before the end of this conformity.

Meeting Consensus

The pre-analysis consensus document (Appendix 17) was discussed and corrected based on comments received by the conformity partners. The timeline was corrected. Everybody agreed on conforming to the MVEB coming from the RFP SIP for the “moderate” classification for the 2008 8-hr ozone standard because it the latest approved MVEB.

Miscellaneous Discussion Items

None

HGB Area
Consultative Partners Conference call
March 4, 2021

Attendees

H-GAC: Graciela Lubertino, Chris Van Slyke, Craig Raborn, Patrick Mandapaka

EPA: Jeff Riley

FHWA-TX: Jose Campos, Barbara Maley

TCEQ: Jamie Zech

Meeting Background

The MPO will be developing an amendment to the transportation plan, the 2045 RTP and 2021-2024 TIP. This amendment is mainly due to the need of moving major projects, like the I-45 Segment 2, from conformity year 2040 to conformity year 2030, starting construction during 2021/2022 time period.

Meeting Purpose

The topic of the conference call was to discuss how to deal in the conformity documentation with the possible EPA approval of new MVEBs during or after the public comment period of H-GACs conformity determination. The new MVEBs are for the 2008 8-hr ozone standard for the classification of “serious”.

Meeting Consensus

The committee agreed on addressing two MVEBs in the conformity documentation. H-GAC will write a paragraph explaining the “either or” situation to include MVEB (existing) and MVEB (future). The regional emission analysis will show conformity to both MVEBs. In the worst-case scenario: conformity partner review is complete **BUT** USDOT conformity letter is not yet executed, H-GAC will include a short analysis; H-GAC will not change the documentation/regional analysis.

H-GAC to share its draft narrative in advance of public comment – for early review/comment with EPA, FHWA and TCEQ

Miscellaneous Discussion Items

None