



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

## Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

Charles D. Baker  
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Matthew A. Beaton  
Secretary

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# MASSACHUSETTS SIP STEERING COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary  
October 2, 2014

### **In Attendance:**

Anne Arnold, EPA  
Don DiCristofaro, Blue Sky Environmental  
Casey Harvell, ALA  
George Lipka, Tetra Tech  
Wig Zamore, STEP/MUTF

*MassDEP Staff*  
Rich Fields  
Glenn Keith  
Christine Kirby  
Ken Santlal  
Michelle Thibodeau  
Mark Wert

*If materials related to an agenda item were distributed or presented at the meeting it is noted below. For more information concerning the agenda item, please refer to the materials, which are available at the SIP Steering Committee website: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/news/advisory-committees/state-implementation-plan-sip-steering-committee.html>.*

### **1. 2014 Ozone Season**

*(Richard Fields, MassDEP Meteorologist (retired))*

In 2014 Massachusetts experienced its first ozone season without an exceedance of the 75 ppb 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). This was due in part to weather patterns that resulted in fewer days above 90 degrees F. Attainment of the standard is based on

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design values for the most recent 3-year period. Preliminary design values for 2012-2014 show Massachusetts attains the 75 ppb standard statewide.

See presentation at: [Ozone Season Update SIP Steering Oct 2014](#)

## **2. NAAQS Implementation Update – Ozone, PM, SO<sub>2</sub>**

*(Anne Arnold, Manager Air Quality Planning Unit EPA Region I)*

EPA proposed a 2008 ozone SIP requirements rule on May 29, 2013 (78 FR 34178). EPA anticipates the final rule in early 2015. (Note: *the final rule was issued on February 13, 2015 – see [EPA's ozone implementation website](#).*)

In 2012 EPA designated Massachusetts as “marginal” nonattainment for ozone in Dukes county and “attainment/unclassifiable” for the remainder of the state (see [EPA's Region 1 ozone designations website](#) and the related [Federal Register notice](#)). Final 2013 design values for ozone indicate no areas in Massachusetts are above the 2008 standard of 75 ppb. However, design values continue to indicate some non-attainment areas in neighboring Rhode Island and Connecticut.

On December 1, 2014 EPA issued a proposal to revise the ozone NAAQS within the range of 70 ppb to 60 ppb (see [EPA's ozone standards website](#)). In accordance with a court order, EPA will issue a final ozone NAAQS by October 1, 2015.

In December 2012 EPA revised the annual primary fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) NAAQS to 12 µg/m<sup>3</sup> from the previous level of 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. EPA intends to designate all states in New England as “unclassifiable/attainment” (see [EPA's fine particle designations website](#)).

In June 2010 EPA revised the 1-hr SO<sub>2</sub> standard to 75 ppb. In 2013 EPA designated nonattainment areas based on air monitoring data. The only monitored nonattainment area in New England was in New Hampshire. EPA recognized, however, that existing SO<sub>2</sub> monitors may not adequately characterize air quality around many of the largest SO<sub>2</sub> sources across the country. Accordingly, EPA developed a process by which states would characterize air quality in these areas, either through expanded air quality monitoring or air quality modeling. On May 13, 2014, EPA proposed an SO<sub>2</sub> Data Requirements Rule to specify how this process would work. In Massachusetts, the Brayton Point power plant would meet the criteria for one of these large SO<sub>2</sub> sources. However, EPA's process only applies to sources

that have not been “announced for retirement,” and Brayton’s owners have indicated it will close in 2017.

See presentation at: [NAAQS Implementation and CSAPR/CAIR Update](#) and also see [EPA’s Ozone NAAQS Implementation website](#).

### **3. CSAPR/CAIR Update**

*(Anne Arnold, Manager Air Quality Planning Unit EPA Region I)*

The Clean Air Act requires states to address emissions that “contribute significantly” to nonattainment or “interfere with maintenance” of NAAQS in downwind states. To address this requirement EPA issued the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) in 2005 and then its replacement, the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) in 2011. After a number of court cases on both rules, CSAPR was finally upheld in April 2014. Connecticut and Massachusetts were included in the ozone season CAIR program, but are not in CSAPR, because air quality modeling shows they no longer contribute significantly to nonattainment of the 1997 and 2006 PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS or the 1997 ozone NAAQS in other states. EPA will work with Connecticut and Massachusetts to develop a replacement program for CAIR to retain the emission reductions achieved under that program.

See presentation at: [NAAQS Implementation and CSAPR/CAIR Update](#) and also see [EPA’s CSAPR website](#).

### **4. MassEVIP Update**

*(Christine Kirby, MassDEP Director, Division of Air and Climate Programs)*

Massachusetts signed the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Memorandum MOU on October 24, 2013 with seven other states. This initiative sets a goal of 3.3 million ZEVs by 2025 – 300,000 of those in Massachusetts. The signatory states are working together to promote readiness for the deployment of electric vehicles (EVs) and the establishment of a robust network of charging infrastructure.

The Transportation Climate Initiative (TCI) was formed in 2010 with 11 Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states and Washington D.C. to work together to reduce GHG emissions from the transportation sector and build the clean energy economy. A key focus area for TCI is promoting EVs.

TCI established the Northeast Electric Vehicle Network through a Clean Vehicles and Fuels Workgroup. This workgroup implemented a \$1 million DOE grant to promote EV readiness in the region.

The Massachusetts EV Initiative (MEVI) Task Force was established in 2013. Members include: state agencies, businesses, non-profits, municipalities, legislators, auto manufacturers, utilities, and the MA Auto Dealer's Association. Priorities for MEVI include infrastructure, outreach, and incentives. Incentives are available under MassDEP's Massachusetts Electric Vehicle Incentive Program – MassEVIP. Grants are available for fleets for vehicle purchases and charging stations and for employers for workplace charging. The Department of Energy Resources is also offering consumer rebates for plug-in vehicles under the "Massachusetts Offers Rebates for Electric Vehicles" (MOR-EV) program.

For more information see the [MassEVIP website](#).

## **5. SIP Update**

*(Mark Wert, MassDEP Chief, Air Planning Branch)*

- MassDEP submitted infrastructure SIPs (iSIPs) to EPA on June 6, 2014 for the 2008 ozone, 2010 NO<sub>2</sub> and 2010 SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS.
- MassDEP is currently developing a RACT SIP for the 2008 ozone standard.
- MassDEP is developing a 10 year Maintenance Plan for carbon monoxide (CO) for all areas previously redesignated to attainment for CO.

See presentation at: [SIP Update for SSC Oct 2014](#)

## **6. Regulation Update**

*(Glenn Keith, MassDEP Deputy Director, Division of Air and Climate Programs)*

MassDEP is working on the following regulation revisions:

- [Stage I/II](#) (now final – see the [Stage I & II Vapor Recovery website](#))
- Municipal Waste Combustor (MWC) Rule update
- MassCAIR replacement rule
- RACT Control Technique Guidelines (CTGs)

## **7. OTC Update**

*(Mark Wert, MassDEP Chief, Air Planning Branch)*

The Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) issued the following documents at its June 11, 2014 meeting.

- Statement of RACT Principles
- Charge to Stationary and Area Sources Committee (SAS) to Pursue Potential Strategies
- Charge to Mobile Source Committee to Pursue Potential Strategies
- Statement on the Completion of Aftermarket Catalytic Converter Model Rule

These were further discussed at the 2014 Fall Committee Meeting September 24, 2014. The OTC will have its fall Board meeting on November 19, 2014.

See the [OTC website](#).

## **8. Schedule Next Meeting**

MassDEP will post a notice on the SIP Steering Committee website and send out meeting notices when the next meeting is scheduled.

See the [MassDEP SIP Steering Committee website](#).

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