

Draft Minutes
TIP PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: July 30, 2004

Meeting Location: CATS

Attendance:

Jack Groner	Metra, Chair
Vanessa Adams	FTA
Vida Morkunas	RTA
Jill Leary	West Central COM, representing COM
Tom Rickert	Counties
Chad Riddle	IDOT District 1
Mike Rogers	IEPA
David Seglin	CDOT
Gordon Smith	IDOT OP&P
David Simmons	CTA
Vicky Tan	Pace
Kevin Ward	FHWA
Patricia Berry	CATS
Teri Dixon	CATS
Bill Kiley	CATS
Ross Patronsky	CATS

Call To Order: Chairman Groner called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

I. Approval of minutes

The July 13, 2003 meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Ms. Leary, seconded by Mr. Smith .

II. Update of the FY 04-09 TIP

Ms. Berry presented a draft of the proposed conformity-neutral FY 2005-2009 TIP Update Schedule. This schedule is in response to the new 8-hour ozone standard and the June 2005 deadline for conformity for that standard. Given that the TIP update must be complete by October 2005, doing both concurrently makes sense. The schedule was discussed and will be sent to implementers.

III. Discussion on conformity determination necessitated by the 8-hour ozone and PM2.5 NAAQS conformity rule

Mr. Rogers began with by explaining the conformity requirements for the 8-hour ozone and PM2.5 standards. Mr. Groner asked about northeastern IL and northwestern IN being combined for the conformity determinations. It was explained that they are not combined for the 8-hour ozone determination, since there are separate 1-hour SIP budgets. However, they are combined for the PM 2.5 determination, since there are no budgets, and the area is one non-attainment area. This is of great concern to all because NIRPC is in a conformity lapse, and there is concern that they will not make a timely conformity determination for PM 2.5. Kenosha County is also in the proposed non-attainment area, but there is an expectation that this will be changed in the final PM 2.5 designations.

EPA will not approve a conformity determination for only part of a region; the whole region must be found to conform together. Mr. Rogers stated that the IN EPA has not updated their ozone budgets. Ms. Berry stated that Indiana has an interim plan and Jim Thorn is helping with the modeling. The possibility of combining northeastern Illinois and counties in neighboring states will be monitored and addressed through the consultation process.

IV. FTA grant recipient data

Ms. Adams explained that recently the FTA reviewed the grant process all over the country and one of the processes closely examined was documentation that assured the FTA that projects included in grant applications were in the STIPs and TIPs referenced by grantees and some problems were found (somewhere in the country not at the Chicago Metro office). As a result, the Chicago Metro Office is asking all its grantees for documentation on each project. After some discussion, the committee instructed staff to put together a letter to FTA with suggestion on a process for documentation of STIP and TIP references that would be acceptable to FTA and to grantees.

V. Next Meeting

The next meeting was left on call.