

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

SEMI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

FOR

EASTERN PANHANDLE, WV
OZONE EARLY ACTION
COMPACT AREA

June 30, 2006

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Executive Summary

This report represents the sixth submittal to the EPA for the Eastern Panhandle Early Action Compact (EAC). The Early Action Plan (EAP) control measures are addressed in detail, as well as other concurrent regional projects and initiatives.

The air quality program coordinator position was vacated in September 2005. Existing air quality duties were disseminated among existing Region 9 staff to keep the work of the Early Action Plan (EAP) moving forward. A new Air Quality Control Manager, Mike Ball, was hired in April 2006.

The Eastern Panhandle Air Quality Task Force is a cross-section of government and business entities, which include manufacturing, transportation, alternative fuels and freight hauling. Contributions of these members are included in a new section of this report titled Regional Air Quality Initiatives.

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EASTERN PANHANDLE AIR QUALITY TASK FORCE

Previously Reported

- The Clean Air Program Coordinator was relieved of duties on September 9. Implementation of the EAC control measures were temporarily assigned to two staff members of the Region 9 Planning and Development Council until the position can be filled.
- A meeting of the Task Force Executive Committee to discuss personnel issues was held on September 9 and meetings of the Task Force were held on September 14 and November 9, 2005.
- Change in staffing of the program has impeded the momentum and continuity of implementation of the EAC program.

Recent Progress

- A new Air Quality Program Manager, Mike Ball, was hired on April 24, 2006.
- The first 2006 ozone season Task Force meeting was held on May 31, 2006. Sixteen (16) task force members attended. The focus of the meeting was to identify means to move each of the seven control measures forward. (Attachment #1: May 31, 2006 AQ Task Force minutes).
- A second meeting of the Task Force was held on June 14, 2006 to review and update the June 2006 semi-annual report. (Attachment #2: June 14, 2006 AQ Task Force minutes)

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CONTROL MEASURES

Public Awareness Program

Implementation Date: July 1, 2004

Status: Implemented and Ongoing

General Public Portion

Previously Reported

- Meetings with healthcare facilities and professionals to disseminate EPA literature focusing on ground-level ozone as it relates to human health have been held. This includes the Jefferson County Red Cross (August), Healthier Jefferson County (August), Healthier Berkeley County (September), City Hospital (September) and the Shenandoah Regional Health System (September).
- Purchased and prepared a portable display and purchased imprinted promotional materials for use as giveaways at event. Items include refrigerator magnets featuring the air quality index, bottles of spring water, pencils, and pens.
- Participated in two public events at the local mall with a display and distributed informational material about air quality and health. West Virginia on the Move Day on September 19 focused on the message of walking and bicycling as an alternate commute means. A community health fair was held on October 29. In addition to the informational material, the public was encouraged to complete a short questionnaire. Completion of the questionnaire registered the participant for a door prize. The door prize included a Clean Air Connection t-shirt, a set of tire minders, a gift certificate for car maintenance service, Planet Polluto and Extraordinary Road Trip CDs. Twenty two surveys were completed. Only one indicated they would like to receive daily AQ forecasts via email.
- Presented programs about the Clean Air Connection initiatives and the Workplace Connection to the Healthier Berkeley County Organization on October 5, 2005 and the Martinsburg Sunshine Rotary Club on October 18, 2005.
- The Martinsburg-Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce distributed via email a flash animation message with winter air quality tips produced by ***It All Adds Up***. The email circulation was sent to approximately 450 recipients in November.
- Added educational links to the Clean Air Connection Website. Added feature to track the number of website/page hits.

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Recent Progress

- Design of the Workplace Connection brochure was completed and 20,000 brochures have been printed. Initial brochure distribution included local libraries, the hospital wellness center, street fairs and other public events. This brochure describes how to join the Eastern Panhandle Clean Air Connection and be part of the Air Quality Network. (Attachment #3: The Workplace Connection Brochure)
- Since the beginning of the 2006 ozone season, 5 additional individuals or companies have been added to The Clean Air Connection ozone alert email distribution list. This was a 12% increase from last year's participants.
- A request was made to Pan Tran, the region's mass transit bus service, to include public service announcements on or inside the buses regarding air quality and ozone matters. The Pan Tran board approved this request on June 12, 2006. One (1) sign will be created for the exterior of each Pan Tran bus, for a total of twelve (12) signs.
- A public awareness presentation was made on June 14, 2006 to K-12 teachers from Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan Counties at James Rumsey Technical Center in Hedgesville, WV. Approximately sixty (60) teachers attended the presentation as part of a continuing education program.
- A school-age presentation was made at the Eastern Panhandle 4-H camp on June 26, 2006. Approximately 200 campers and camp counselors were in attendance. Literature and educational CD-ROMs were distributed and potential science fair project ideas were discussed for the upcoming school year.
- A Clean Air Connection exhibit was displayed at the Shepherdstown Street Fest on June 24, 2006. It was estimated that over 2,000 people attended the one-day event. Approximately 35 individuals stopped by the Clean Air Connection booth. These individuals took an assortment of the brochures: Workplace Connection brochure, open burning brochures, Air Quality Action Days brochure and the EPA Guide to Air Quality and Your Health brochure.
- A survey was conducted at the Shepherdstown Street Fest to quantify public awareness and knowledge of air quality. Twenty (20) surveys were collected and a Clean Air Connection T-shirt was awarded to one (1) randomly selected survey participant. Based on the survey results, objectives will be redefined to produce more effective public presentations. (Attachment #4: Public Awareness Survey and Results)
- The editor for The Journal newspaper, Maria Lorensen, was contacted about including the daily AQI in the weather section of The Journal. Ms. Lorensen is reviewing the paper's option for including this information on the daily

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weather forecast page. The Journal is the largest daily newspaper in the Eastern Panhandle with a daily circulation of 22,000 copies and a Sunday circulation of 25,000 copies. An estimated 40,000 people per day see this newspaper. The weather page of the newspaper currently contains daily and weekly forecasts for the region.

- The Shepherdstown Chronicle, a weekly newspaper based in Shepherdstown, WV, has agreed to run a monthly newspaper column authored by the Clean Air Connection Program Manager to address ozone related issues. The Chronicle has a readership base of approximately 2,000; a majority of those readers reside within Jefferson County. The first column appeared in the June 23, 2006 edition, with subsequent articles to appear in July, August and September. Future articles will inform the public of walking/biking paths, anti-idling campaigns and other ozone health issues. (Attachment #5: *What Color is Your Air* article).
- Additional presentations and public awareness events are scheduled for the following organizations: Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce in July 2006, Jefferson County Rotary Club in August 2006, The Martinsburg Air Show in August 2006, Health and Wellness Fair at the Martinsburg Mall in October 2006.

School-Based Portion

Previously Reported

- Meetings were held with key personnel from the Jefferson County school systems to discuss ways that the Clean Air Connection may be able to get suggested classroom air quality educational activities into the hands of educators and encourage its use. They are currently previewing sample classroom educational materials that they might incorporate into their current science curriculum. All sixth grade science teachers have been given copies of Planet Polluto and High School driver's education teachers are previewing the Extraordinary Road Trip. To date the feed back has been positive.
- Purchased 300 Planet Polluto and 200 Extraordinary Road Trip educational CD's to distribute to school age children through local science fairs. Tentative plans have been made to participate in the Jefferson County Science Fair on January 28, 2006.
- Although initial attempts to set meetings with the Berkeley County Schools have been successful, efforts will be continued to establish discussions with the Berkeley County Schools.
- Educational materials and games for school age children available through the ***It All Adds Up*** website were copied and distributed at the Health Fair held in the Martinsburg Mall.

Recent Progress

- The Air Quality Program Manager has been in contact with the Jefferson and Berkeley County school systems to schedule presentations during the 2006/2007 school year. This will be an ongoing effort to address the elementary, middle and senior high school students.
- As mentioned in the Public Awareness portion of this report, a presentation was made on June 14, 2006 to teachers from Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan Counties at James Rumsey Technical Center in Hedgesville, WV. A number of teachers expressed interest in having an ozone pollution presentation held at their schools.

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Air Quality Action Days

Implementation Date: July 1, 2004

Status: Implemented and Ongoing

General Public Portion

Previously Reported

- There were no Air Quality Action Days following the June 30, 2005 report. The 8 hour average through August was at .075 design value, which is below the .084 standard.
- The Air Quality Action Days Brochure has continued to be distributed through participation at public events, meetings and presentations, as well as public distribution sites.

Recent Progress

- To date there have been no Code Red Air Quality Action Days designations for the Counties of Berkeley and Jefferson. Ground-level ozone concentrations reached the code orange level on only one day, May 30, 2006, according to the EPA, although the forecast for that day had been code yellow. June 18, 2006 was forecasted as a code orange day; however, the actual reading for that day was code yellow. (Attachment #6: AQI Readings For Martinsburg, West Virginia – April 6, 2006 through June 22, 2006 and Attachment # 7: West Virginia Eastern Panhandle 8-hr. Ozone Design Value information – three pages)
- Air Quality Action Day brochures are distributed on a continual basis through public events, meetings and presentations, as well as public distribution sites.
- The Clean Air Connection maintains a list of subscribers who receive an email in the event of an ozone alert. These subscribers have specifically requested to receive this information. In an effort to get ozone alert information to the general public, especially individuals who may not have access to email, supplementary forms of media have been contacted. Local radio stations and newspapers will be very effective in disseminating this information.
- Local radio station WRNR, AM 740, was contacted with the appropriate ozone alert public service announcements to provide to their listeners. The announcements will include the forecast for the ozone alert period and actions the general public should take during the alert period. These actions include: refraining from filling their car's gas tank until after dark, refraining from mowing their lawns during the alert, reducing their exposure to ozone by staying indoors. The radio station has been provided with sample scripts to

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be used for each ozone alert level.

- Three additional radio stations within Prettyman Broadcasting have been contacted and were asked to make public service announcements in the event of an ozone alert. Prettyman Broadcasting has not responded to this request. The Air Quality Program Manager will follow-up with Prettyman broadcasting on this matter, the results will be included in the December 31, 2006 semi-annual report.

Employer-Based Portion

Previously Reported

- A brochure has been developed to promote the workplace connection program for employers. This brochure was included in a direct mailing to 82 area homebuilders along with general information regarding the clean air connection and a brochure promoting open burning regulations and compliance.
- A meeting was held November 22 with the Operations Director with Jefferson County School System (the largest employer in Jefferson County) to discuss participation in the workplace connection. There was an expressed willingness to post and distribute daily air quality forecasts during ozone season. They are also interested in partnering to produce and place anti-idling signs at student drop off and pick up locations.
- The Old Charles Town Library has joined the workplace connection, agreeing to post Air Quality Alerts and distribute information to employees and patron.
- A member of the Air Quality Task force has agreed to distribute information and Air Quality Alerts to a network of homeowner association presidents throughout Jefferson County.

Recent Progress

- The Workplace Connection brochure has been completed and 20,000 copies have been printed. This brochure is available at all presentations and events. A Workplace Connection AQI poster is being developed and will be provided to each new subscriber to the Workplace Connection. The laminated poster, approximately, 11" x 17", will illustrate the AQI and corresponding actions individuals should take during an alert.

Increased Compliance with Open Burning Restrictions

Implementation Date: July 1, 2004

Status: Implemented and Ongoing

Previously Reported

- Included a WV DEP educational flyer outlining existing open burning regulations with a cover letter introducing the Clean Air Connection to 82 Panhandle area homebuilders on November 2, 2005.
- A local farmer collects yard waste (leaves & grass) from the Berkeley County Solid Waste Authority and hauls it to the farm to incorporate it into their compost. The farm also accepts grass and leaves directly from local residents. The other yard wastes (wood, branches, etc) is ground by the SWA and used as mulch. Prior to this effort the yard waste was burned by homeowners.

Recent Progress

- Open burning information has been made available to the general public through brochures during ozone pollution presentations and at public events. West Virginia DEP Open Burning law brochures and a cover letter were mailed to local developers in June of 2006. Additional work in this area is noted under the public awareness program control measure. (Attachment #8: Open Burning brochure cover letter)

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Reduced Engine Idling

Implementation Date: July 1, 2005

Status: In Progress

Previously Reported

- A meeting was held in Charleston WV with the Department of Highways in August to discuss the design of a new planned exit ramp and portion of roadway at Exit 8 along Interstate 81 and connecting to Route 11. There is the potential of designing in a park and ride lot at the exit on land owned by the DOH and currently being utilized to park construction equipment and jersey wall. Construction of a new exit from I-81 at Route 9 is in progress. There is a large area in this location that could accommodate a significant number of vehicles. This was also mentioned as a possibility and will be followed up on at a future meeting.
- The potential of designing and installing anti-idling signage at student drop-off and pick up sites was discussed with the Jefferson County School System. There was interest expressed. The same will be proposed to the Berkeley County School System.

Recent Progress

- Swift Transportation is a member of the Eastern Panhandle Air Quality task force. Their local facility is a maintenance shop, handling 150 tractors per day and about the same number of trailers. Their trucks are equipped with various anti-idling devices including: ICON, an idle management tool for controlling the environment in the truck's cab; Optimize-Idle, a device that can monitor many of the trucks systems and be programmed to shut off a truck's engine after the vehicle has been idle for a specific period of time and Webasto parking heaters.
- Local haulers and construction companies have been contacted within the Eastern Panhandle. These small business owners are very much aware of the impact of unnecessary idling to their bottom line. Unnecessary idling of vehicles and equipment increases fuel and maintenance costs. The common response from the above mentioned business owners is that they simply do not permit their drivers to idle unnecessarily. Their drivers and equipment operators are instructed to turn off the engines when they are not in operation. This policy benefits the business owner financially; whereas the reduction of pollutants being generated into the atmosphere benefits the region.
- A new anti-idling campaign is being developed and scheduled to be implemented in September 2006. The long term benefits for this campaign will extend into the 2007 ozone season and beyond. Region 9 is collaborating with Valley AIRNow in Winchester, Virginia to develop this campaign. (Attachment #9: Anti-Idling Campaign Project Scope)

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- The focus of this campaign will be to make the general public, business community and local governments aware of the problems caused by unnecessary idling and the benefits to be derived by implementing anti-idling policies. As part of this campaign, a proposed anti-idling policy was submitted to the City of Martinsburg. This idling reduction policy was adopted at a Special City Council meeting on June 15, 2006. (Attachment #10 : City of Martinsburg Anti-Idling Policy and cover letter)
- Idling hot-spots will be identified and signage will be placed to remind motorists to turn off their vehicle engine. Examples of hot-spots are pick-up and drop-off areas at schools and drive-thru windows at restaurants and banks. This will be announced to the public with signage, brochures, articles in local newspapers, radio announcements and through presentations.

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Ground Freight Partnership

Implementation Date: July 1, 2005

Status: In Progress

Previously Reported

- A local Jefferson County farmer, Lyle C. Tabb and Sons, Inc has converted 5 commercial trucks and 4 pickup trucks to biodiesel fuel. A press conference highlighting the conversion was held. The company has adorned their fleet vehicles with mud flaps informing other drivers that these trucks use "Biodiesel Fuel for Cleaner Air".



- Two local employers (Quad Graphics and Swift Transportation) are current members of the US EPA SmartWay Transport program. Meetings have been held with each to determine the strategies that each corporation is implementing and what results they have seen. We are still awaiting receipt of any quantifiable data that the companies may have. The emission reducing strategies employed include:
 - Auxiliary Power Units
 - Driver teams
 - Automatic idle shutdowns
 - Aerodynamic improvements including: tractor profiles, integrated cab roof & side fairings
 - Reduced rolling resistance tires
 - Reduced weight truck designs
 - Advanced lubricants
 - Large capacity trailers speed controls
 - Improved logistics
 - Fan clutches
 - Cooled EGR valves
 - Driver training
- A listing of the regions employers who operate fleets or utilize common carriers has been identified and they will be distributed information and

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encouraged to participate in the SmartWay Transport Partnership or consider some strategies for lowering emissions.

Recent Progress

- Contacts were made with a number of large and small trucking companies and construction contractors in the region.
- Smaller companies are often individually owned businesses with fewer than five trucks. Some of these businesses also operate excavating equipment. While they may not be formally defined, each of these companies has their own anti-idling policy in place. From the perspective of these small business owners, anti-idling policies are focused on saving the company money in reduced fuel and maintenance costs. The region benefits from the reduction of pollutants being generated by these companies.
- The New Century Truckload Services Group, a New Jersey based company, has a facility in the Martinsburg area. They currently have a fleet of 50 tractors, primarily Kenworth T-600s. These tractors are programmed to stop running if the rig has not moved for five minutes. In addition to this idling shut-off, the tractors are equipped with generators that are used to maintain cab temperatures without running the tractor's engine. New Century estimates that these two components of their anti-idling policy add .5 miles per gallon over the truck's normal performance. Trucks equipped with these devices were getting 6 miles per gallon; they are now getting 6.5 miles per gallon. This is an increase of just over 8%.

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Bicycle and Pedestrian Measures

Implementation Date: September 1, 2005

Status: In Progress

Previously Reported

- The West Virginia Local Technical Assistance Program at West Virginia University has been contacted and agreed to conduct a Walkable Community Workshop in both Berkeley County and Jefferson County. These workshops are tentatively scheduled for April 2006. As preparation, Dr. Ron Eck, Program Director was hosted in the Eastern Panhandle on November 21 to conduct a visual reconnaissance of the two counties and meet with local planners and officials. Some pedestrian audit tools were discussed and plans are being developed to conduct a pedestrian walkability survey.

Recent Progress

- This control measure has seen a significant increase in activity and involvement at all levels within the region. Progress on this control measure will not only benefit the air quality in the region, it will also directly improve the health of many individuals in the region and provide connected recreation areas between the various jurisdictions.
- Walkable Communities Workshop: The initial workshop was held on April 26, 2006. A total of 18 people attended. Dr. Ron Eck, Director of the West Virginia Local Technical Assistance Program at West Virginia University, facilitated the workshop. Dr. Eck provided information regarding problems that pedestrians and bicyclists face, and the types of environment pedestrians and bicyclists need to pursue this mode of transportation. A reporter from the Martinsburg Journal attended the workshop and interviewed participants. The article appeared in the April 27, 2006 edition of the newspaper and has generated additional interest among citizens in the region. (Attachment # 11 : *Residents Debate Walkways* Article)
- A follow-up meeting to the walkable communities workshop was held on May 25, 2006 and a task force was formed. A total of 5 individuals attended this meeting. This kick-off meeting was held to organize the task force, discuss issues from the April workshop, and brainstorm on projects within the communities. (Attachment #12: May 25, 2006 Walkable Communities Task Force Meeting Minutes)
- A second meeting of this task force was held on June 16, 2006. There were two new attendees at this meeting: the city planner from Charles Town WV and a citizen of Jefferson County. A total of seven individuals attended this meeting. This task force has been renamed The Eastern Panhandle Walking and Biking Alliance. The name is both descriptive of the primary modes of transportation that are being advocated and inclusive of the entire Eastern

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Panhandle. (Attachment #13: June 16, 2006 Eastern Panhandle Walking and Biking Alliance Meeting Minutes)

- The task force members identified the following tasks to be completed by the next meeting, scheduled for July 21, 2006:
 - Build a network of contacts within the Eastern Panhandle of all government/private organizations and individuals involved with road/trail planning and groups interested in walking and biking
 - Collect information and maps of existing and proposed trails, bike paths and bike lanes
- The information gathered by the alliance will be used to create an initiative to connect disjointed walking/biking paths and trails throughout the region.
- The Eastern Panhandle Walking and Biking Alliance has scheduled a meeting on August 3, 2006 with Rebecca A. Davison, the Safe Routes to School Coordinator with the WV Division of Highways. This meeting will explore ways for the Eastern Panhandle to establish and increase the number of safe routes to schools for students. The Safe Routes to Schools Program is a Federal-Aid grant program of the US Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration.
- The cities of Ranson and Charles Town WV share a common border. Both city managers are collaborating to connect trails (usually as part of a sidewalk or road) as they pass from one jurisdiction to the other. This project will be used as a model for connecting other trails and paths within the panhandle.
- This control measure has generated a lot of interest within the community. In addition to the benefit of decreasing polluting emissions from vehicles as more people walk or ride their bicycles, this control measure will also have a positive effect on health within the community. One of the members of this alliance is an active advocate in preventing childhood obesity; the work accomplished under this control measure will directly affect this cause.

School-Bus Engine Retrofit

Implementation Date: July 1, 2004

Status: Complete as of December 2004

Previously Reported

The school bus diesel engine retrofit project was undertaken, in part, to demonstrate to EPA that the EAC involved the community in making efforts to obtain emissions reductions. The reduction of diesel particulate not only reduces exposure of children and bus drivers to this carcinogen, but also to fine Particulate Matter (PM) as well. By the final implementation of school bus diesel engine retrofit measures in Jefferson and Berkeley Counties, three main objectives will be met:

- air quality in WV's Eastern Panhandle region will be improved;
- the school bus engine fleets will be cleaner without having to replace existing buses; and
- school children will be exposed to reduced amounts of diesel engine exhaust, a likely human carcinogen.

A reduction of diesel exhaust emissions has been achieved by the completion of the eligible school bus retrofits with Diesel Oxidation Catalysts (DOCs). A 50% reduction of hydrocarbons (HC), including volatile organic compounds or VOCs, a ground level ozone precursor, has been achieved by implementing diesel engine retrofit measures on school buses in Berkeley and Jefferson Counties. The reduction of diesel particulate not only reduces exposure of children and bus drivers to this carcinogen, but reduces exposure to carbon monoxide (CO) by 40% and PM fines by 20% as well (approximate specific pollutant emission reduction figures obtained from information provided by US EPA).

Diesel engines are very reliable and it is not uncommon for them to be in use for 20-30 years. Thus, retrofitting school bus fleets with DOCs has resulted in emissions reductions sooner than would otherwise occur through fleet turnover. DOCs were chosen as the method of diesel engine retrofit for Jefferson and Berkeley Counties due to ease of installation, relatively low cost, and ability to reduce not only diesel exhaust emissions, but VOCs and CO as well. Logistically, the fact that DOCs do not require Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) fuel makes them an attractive choice because fuel options are limited in the surrounding geographic area. Economically, since DOCs are less expensive than diesel PM filter traps (as well as requiring less maintenance than PM filter traps), more school buses were retrofitted, thereby decreasing diesel PM, HC and CO emissions over a larger area.

For the purposes of this project, retrofit candidates chosen were buses in active service with 1997 or newer engines. These buses are currently 6 years old and are expected to have at least another 6 years in active service, followed by possible continued use as spares. The DOCs were solicited via a competitive bid process using only vendors on EPA's list of Verified Retrofit Technologies. The Donaldson Company submitted the

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lowest bid and was therefore awarded the contract to supply DOCs and associated hardware for both counties.

Both schools have completed all of the proposed retrofits. Annual record-keeping of buses retrofitted with DOCs must be submitted for the next 5 years on July 1st of each year. This annual report is to include the vehicle miles traveled by each retrofitted bus (annual odometer readings), and annual fuel usage data by vehicle. This report must also certify that all retrofitted buses remaining in the fleet have been maintained in general service and that the DOCs have been in good working order.

Recent Progress

The 105 retrofitted buses were in service for the first six weeks of the 2006 ozone season. Each bus drives approximately 2,000 miles per week using a 20% bio-diesel fuel mix. During this six week period each bus used approximately 1,710 gallons of fuel, for a total of almost 180,000 gallons of fuel for the fleet of 105 buses.

Based on the manufacturer's estimates, hydrocarbon (HC), including volatile organic compounds (VOCs), emissions for the 180,000 gallons of fuel were reduced by 50%. This had a direct affect on reducing the ozone causing pollutants that were generated. Carbon monoxide (CO) and particulate matter pollutants were also reduced.

Control Measures Summary

The progress for each control measure of the Early Action Plan is summarized in Attachment #14: Summary Table of EAC, Control Measure and Program Status. The information included in this table represents work completed from January 1, 2006 through June 30, 2006.

This table also reports that all aspects of the Early Action Plan are fully funded.

REGIONAL AIR QUALITY INITIATIVES

This is a new section for the semi-annual report. It contains information about ongoing initiatives throughout the region. While the initiatives may fall outside of the EAC membership, they directly support the EAP control measures and ultimately help to improve air quality in the Eastern Panhandle.

Eastern Panhandle Transit Authority – Pan Tran

Pan Tran provides bus service throughout Jefferson and Berkeley Counties. This service includes regularly scheduled routes as well as an on-demand service. Pan Tran completed a \$50,000.00 study of the transit system in mid 2005.

In December 2005, Pan Tran initiated the first step in their plan to improve their service to the public. The initial task was to reorganize their bus routes to make the system easier to use and to improve service. Pan Tran has used a Hub-and-Spoke system to do this. These changes have resulted in a 7.14% increase in ridership for the six-month period from December 2005 through May 2006. (Attachment 15: Pan Tran Six Month Ridership Numbers)

The study makes a number of recommendations regarding the services Pan Tran provides. Changes recommended by the study that Pan Tran will make in the future include: Sunday service, regional service, commuter service and ride share program.

SmartWay Transport Partnership

The Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia has a number of businesses that are part of the EPA SmartWay Transport Partnership. This includes truck carriers, freight shippers, shipper carriers and rail carriers. At least three of these companies are charter members of the SmartWay partnership.

Swift Transportation is both a charter member of SmartWay and an active participant of the air quality task force. As a corporation they make use of the new and innovative ways to run their business which ultimately will improve the quality of the air. They use very efficient tires to improve gas mileage, have reduced the distance from the cab to the trailer, better insulation in the cabs of their vehicles, have a strict idle reduction policy and use new equipment to reduce idling time on their vehicles.

Biodiesel Sales within the Eastern Panhandle

The Inwood Farmers Market in Inwood, WV, has begun selling bio-diesel fuel in 55-gallon drums and in smaller quantities as needed by the customer. By using bio-diesel, a renewable fuel resource, citizens of the Eastern Panhandle are reducing the amount of air pollutants, thereby reducing the amount of ground level ozone generated. In the first thirty days of selling bio-diesel, the Farmers Market sold over 450 gallons of the product. Their product is 100% bio-diesel; customers blend the fuel to meet their own needs.

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The Inwood Farmers Market held an open house on June 13, 2006 to promote bio-diesel fuel. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture is sponsoring this pilot project. Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture, Janet L. Fisher, attended the function which received coverage from the local newspapers, radio and area TV stations. This coverage generated many phone calls from consumers interested in obtaining more information on bio-diesel fuel. In addition, consumers from neighboring states of Maryland and Virginia are traveling to West Virginia to purchase this alternative fuel. (Attachment #16: Bio-diesel brochure)

Green Infrastructure

The Commission of Jefferson County has funded a Green Infrastructure Study to ensure that expanding development within the county does not sacrifice the quality of life residents currently enjoy. The study directly supports the goals of the bicycle and pedestrian control measure. The study started in June 2006 and is scheduled to be complete by the end of December 2006.

This study will provide information and recommendations in maintaining green infrastructure as the county grows and develops. From 2000 to 2004, Jefferson County's population increased 12.9%. This population growth is expected to continue.

The results of the Green Infrastructure Study will include: recommended areas for development, recommended areas for land conservation, locations of walking and biking trails, recommendations for connecting communities with trails or non-motorized access and identifying historic and culturally important areas within the county.

Geographic Coordination

The Air Quality Program manager attended the June task force meeting of the Valley AIRNow program in Winchester, VA. This group is performing the same ozone/air pollution function as the Eastern Panhandle EAC. By attending this meeting, additional contacts were made within the Shenandoah Valley regarding air pollution issues. The two organizations began collaborating on an anti-idling campaign. With this collaboration, a larger geographic area will be covered and a common theme regarding anti-idling policies will be established throughout the northern Shenandoah Valley. The Eastern Panhandle Clean Air Connection has worked closely with Valley AIRNow in Winchester VA since the inception of the EAC. This continuing work between the two organizations has been beneficial to each organization and to the air quality in the northern Shenandoah Valley.

Attachment #1

Air Quality Task Force

Meeting Minutes

May 31, 2006

Attachment #2

Task Force Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2006

Draft

Attachment #3

Workplace Connection Brochure

Attachment #4

Public Awareness Survey and Results

Attachment #5

“What Color Is Your Air?” Article

Shepherdstown Chronicle

Attachment #6

AQI Readings for Martinsburg, WV

April 6, 2006 through June 22, 2006

Attachment #7

West Virginia Eastern Panhandle 8-hr Ozone Design Value Information

Attachment #8

Open Burning Brochure

Cover Letter

Attachment #9

Anti-Idling Campaign

Project Scope

Attachment #10

City of Martinsburg

Anti-idling Policy and Cover Letter

Attachment #11

Walkable Community Workshop

“Residents Debate Walkways” Article

Martinsburg Journal

Attachment #12

Walkable Communities

Task Force Meeting Minutes

May 25, 2006

Attachment #13

Easter Panhandle

Walking and Biking Alliance

Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2006

Draft

Attachment #14

Summary Table of EAC

Control Measures

and

Program Status

Attachment #15

Pan Tran

Six Month Ridership Numbers

Attachment #16

Bio-diesel Brochure