

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



State Regulatory Perspective



Tad Aburn, Maryland Department of the Environment
Meeting the Challenges of Particulate Air Pollution
September 27, 2004

Multiple Choice

- Policy is never based on good science
- Policy is always based on good science
- Policy makers don't want to be confused by science
- Scientists speak some alien language that only other scientists can understand
- All of the above





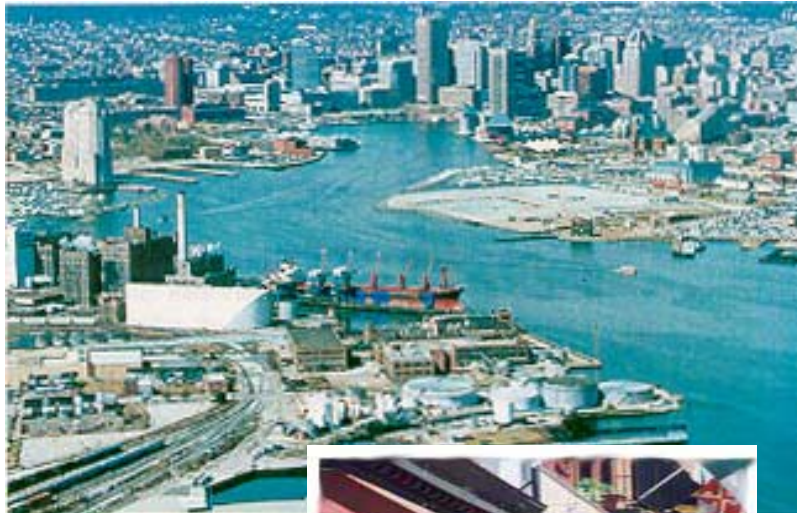
Three Basic Challenges

- Help your local regulator
- Help to answer simple questions
- Be aware of regulatory time frames





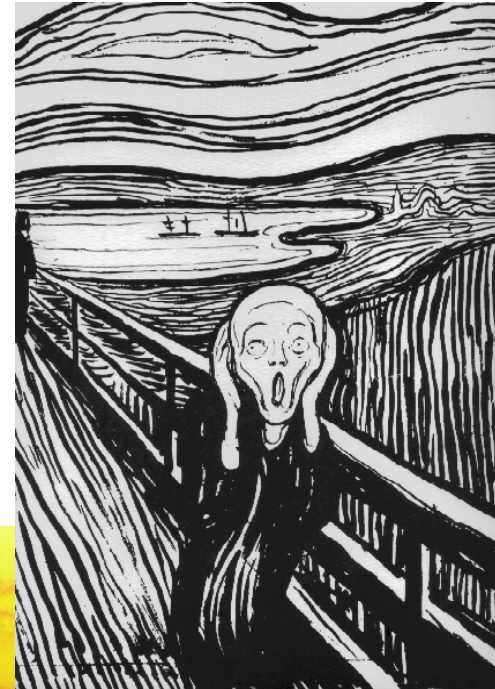
What Does a State Air Regulator Do?



- Front line implementation of the Clean Air Act
- A primary “user” of research
- Two basic tasks:
 - Develop and submit plans to clean the air by specific dates
 - Provide clean air by specific dates

Consequences of Failure

- Can be penalized for:
 - Failure to submit “plans”
 - Failure to clean up the air
- Three basic penalties
 - Stop transportation planning
 - Constrain economic development
 - Penalize large manufacturers and other businesses
- Recent experience with penalties in MD





What's in a Clean Air Plan

- Also called a “SIP” or State Implementation Plan
- Different plans for different pollutants
- Really a collection of regulations and analyses that show attainment of standards by some future date like 2010
 - Regulations must be fully adopted and enforceable when plan is submitted





SIPs in Maryland

- Still working on three different 1-hour ozone SIPs with 2005 attainment dates
- PM SIPs (2 or 3), O₃ SIPs (3½) and regional haze
- Attempting to harmonize SIP efforts
 - Easier said than done





Key Upcoming Dates



- 2010
 - Clean air - PM and O₃
- 2007/2008
 - SIPs due
- 2005/2006
 - Adopt regulations and finalize analyses to demonstrate attainment
- 2004/2005
 - Understand who, where and how much to regulate



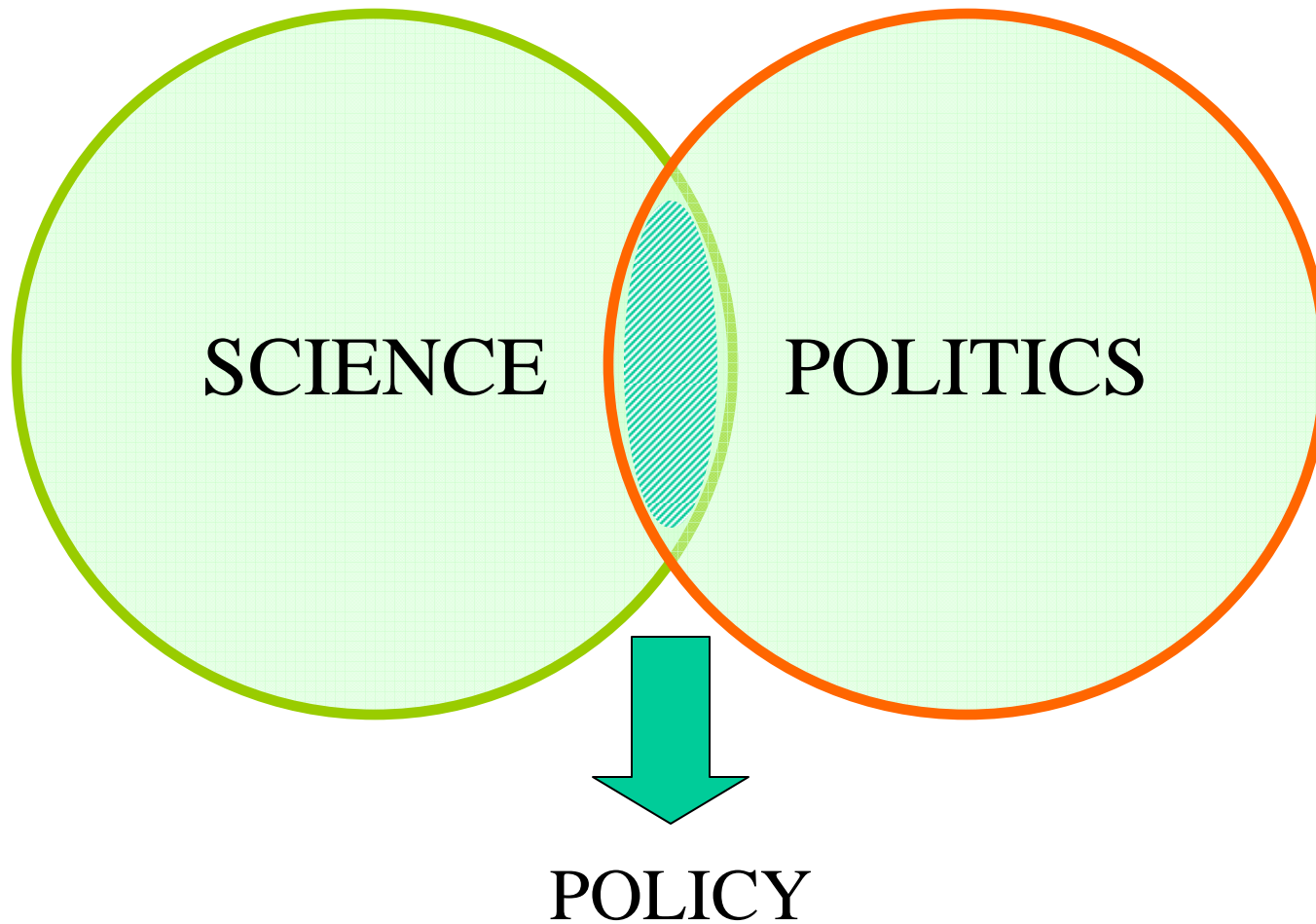
Back to the Challenges

- Help your local regulator
- Help to answer simple questions
- Be aware of regulatory time frames





Environmental Policy





Help Answer Basic Questions



- Based on the best science available at this time ...
 - Which sources should be regulated (required to reduce emissions)?
 - Over what areas should the reductions be required?
 - How much of a reduction should be required?



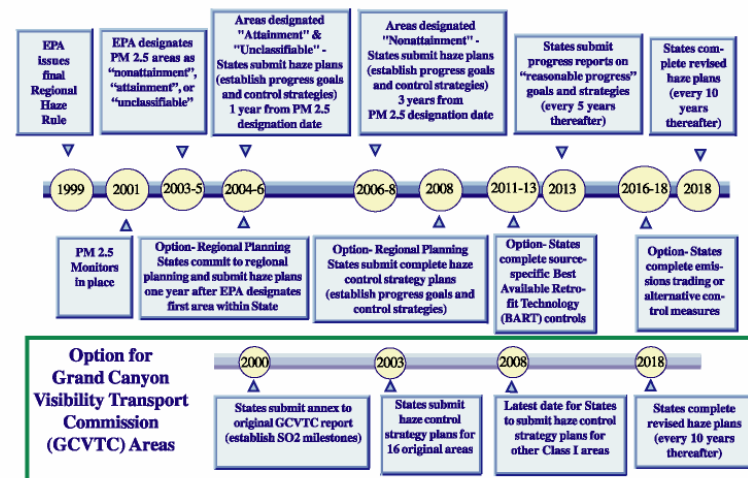
Regulatory Timeframes

- University of Maryland Partnership
- “At this time the science seems to support ...”
- This kind of information is very useful to regulators
- You don’t need to remind us
 - We are aware that there is always a need for more research!!



Regional Haze

Timeline for States to Implement EPA’s Rule



Summary

- Three Basic Challenges
 - Help your local regulator
 - Help to answer simple questions
 - Be aware of regulatory time frames



Question: From a state air regulators perspective, where is the science the weakest?

Answer: Understanding air pollution transport and how it relates to the geographic areas that we regulate. The “area of influence” concept.