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MEETING SUMMARY
MINNESOTA CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY GROUP
Agriculture, Forestry, and Waste Management Technical Work Group
(AFW TWG)

Call #1, May 24, 2007, 3:00pm – 4:30pm

Attendance:

1. Technical Working Group members:
Stan Ellison, Julie Ketchum, Peter Aube, Will Anthony, Paul Flynn (for Bill Hunt), Bill Lee, Joe Maher, Andy Hart, Greg Miller (for David Berg), Mitch Davis, Mike Harley, Tim Gieseke, Cheryl Miller, Shalini Gupta, Staci Bohlen, Carrie Mellesmoen, Dave Zumeta, David Preisler, Jim Klienschmidt
2. Center for Climate Strategies (CCS) staff:
Stephen Roe, Brad Strobe
3. Minnesota Department of Commerce (DOC) and Pollution Control Agency (PCA)
Liaisons and Attendees:
Dave Richfield (PCA)
4. Public Attendees: None
5. Observers: Don Hejna

Background documents:

(all posted at http://www.mnclimatechange.us/Agriculture_Forestry.cfm)

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. PowerPoint for Teleconference.
3. AFW Draft Catalog of State Actions.
4. AFW State Actions Descriptions.

Discussion items and key issues:

1. Roll call and introductions of TWG, CCS, and State contacts conducted.
2. CCS reviewed the Agenda for the call.

3. CCS gave an overview of the purpose and key outcomes of the process. A key issue is the contracted schedule for the process. Report to be completed in less than a year (February 1, 2008).
4. CCS provided an overview of the MCCAG process convened by Governor Pawlenty. Roles of the different process participants were covered. The TWG's role to support the actions of the MCCAG was described (primarily in technical analysis and providing recommendations to the MCCAG).
5. CCS discussed the roles of the TWG. Specifically, the TWG is responsible for identifying and prioritizing potential state actions, suggesting straw policy designs, assisting with MCCAG reports, and reviewing and assisting with revisions to the state GHG inventory and forecast.
6. The TWG process ground rules were disclosed followed by the timing of the MCCAG and TWG meetings.
7. The 10-Step CCS Work Plan for working through each step in the process was also covered. The TWG is currently working on the first 2 steps:
 - a. Develop inventory and forecast of emissions.
 - b. Identify a full range of possible actions
8. The MCCAG process is open and comprehensive. All GHG's, sectors, potential implementation mechanisms, state and multi-state actions, and short and long-term actions are considered.
9. CCS introduced the catalog of state actions and accompanying state action descriptions. CCS requested that TWG members review the AFW catalog in advance of the next TWG meeting and be ready to discuss policy actions that might be missing from the catalog, as well as recent state actions that need to be added (e.g. recent legislation that relates to one or more of the options in the catalog).
10. Each TWG follows a similar policy design template. For each policy option, the TWG is responsible for determining the timing, goals, and coverage of the option. CCS quantifies these options and presents these estimates for review by the TWG. The analysis conducted by CCS takes into account related programs and policies already in place in MN. Once each option has been completed by the TWG, they are reviewed and approved by the CCAG.
11. CCS fielded a small number of questions regarding the Inventory and Forecast (I&F). CCS will post the AFW I&F appendices to http://www.mnclimatechange.us/Agriculture_Forestry.cfm, and the entire I&F draft will be available at <http://www.mnclimatechange.us>. CCS will provide TWG members with notification of posting of I&F Draft documents. As time was limited on this first call, CCS explained that more detailed reviews of the I&F will be conducted in subsequent TWG meetings.
12. CCS reviewed the MN GHG inventory approach and initial results; more specifically, emissions from the agriculture, forestry, and waste management sectors. Key point for the inventory: MN PCA inventory includes carbon monoxide (CO) from combustion

processes and CO₂ from biomass combustion. The CCS I&F does not include these emissions.

13. Estimated GHG emissions from the Agriculture, Forestry, and Waste Management sectors in MN are reported and compared to US emissions from the same sectors. In the Forestry estimates, a TWG member questioned the reason for high Soil Organic Carbon positive net emission. CCS assured members that the I&F and its results will be reviewed in detail during future calls.
14. CCS briefly covered the Catalog of State GHG Actions and the Descriptions of Catalog Items. TWG members are asked to review these materials in more detail before the next call and be ready to discuss additions and revisions to the catalog on the next call. TWG members should send in comments/questions to Steve Roe (steve.roe@pechan.com).

Next steps and agreements:

1. The next TWG meeting will be held on June 7, from 3:00 - 4:30 pm.
2. When posted, TWG members should review at least the AFW appendices of the GHG Inventory & Forecast Report, so that issues can be discussed on the next call. CCS will notify the TWG members when the materials are available for review.
3. TWG members should review the Catalog of State Actions and the Descriptions of Catalog Items documents. Input for additions or revisions to the catalog will be discussed during the next meeting.