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MEETING SUMMARY
ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON GLOBAL WARMING
Cross Cutting (CC) Issues Technical Work Group (TWG)
Call #2, March 12, 2008
3:00 pm to 4:45 pm Central

Attendees:

TWG Members: Jerry Farris PhD, Christopher Ladner, Elizabeth Martin PhD, Jeffrey Short

Advisory Body Members: Nancy Ledbetter, Karen Bassett

Arkansas Governor's Office: Jillian Hicks

Center for Climate Strategies: Ken Colburn, Randy Strait, Katie Pasko

Members of the Public: Kelly Mulholland, Fayetteville; and a representative from Estes, Gramling and Estes

Background documents:

(all posted at <http://www.arclimatechange.us/cc.cfm>)

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. Summary of Call #1
3. PowerPoint for Teleconference.
4. Catalog of State Actions
5. Descriptions of State Actions

Discussion and Conclusions:

Introductions and Review of Agenda

Randy Strait welcomed the TWG members, called the meeting to order, completed the roll call, and reviewed the agenda for the call.

Review and Approval of Prior Call Summary

The TWG approved the summary of Call #1 without comments or revisions.

GCGW Process Progress

Strait briefly covered the 10 step process (slide 4) and noted that the TWGs are currently on the third step of the process that involves identifying initial priorities for analysis. The TWGs just completed the prior step to expand the universe of actions on the catalog to include actions applicable to Arkansas. At its February 28 meeting, the GCGW reviewed, provided comments on, and approved the Catalog for the CC TWG. After reviewing the GCGW's comments on the

Catalog today, the TWG will begin developing 10 to 12 actions to suggest to the GCGW for analysis.

Review Results of GCGW Meeting #4

CCS provided the TWG with a markup of the Catalog before the call showing revisions to address the GCGW's comments. The comments are briefly summarized in slide 5 of the PowerPoint. Strait reviewed the comments and noted the revisions in the Catalog. The TWG approved the revisions.

Review Goals for GCGW Meeting #5

The TWG reviewed the goals for the next meeting of the GCGW. One goal is for the TWG to complete the Catalog of State Actions; the TWG may add actions for consideration by the GCGW if they feel that something needs to be added as members develop their suggested priorities for analysis. The second goal is for the TWG to begin work on developing its recommendations to the GCGW on priorities for analysis. The GCGW will review the TWG's recommendations at its next meeting and then decide on the priority policy options for the TWG to develop straw proposals. The TWGs will also be reviewing the draft GHG emissions inventory and forecast. This work is undergoing revisions to incorporate state-specific data. The revised draft inventory and forecast will be reviewed by the state agencies that contributed data for the effort and then it will be provided to the GCGW and TWGs for review. Generally, the sector-specific TWGs are responsible for reviewing the inventory and forecast. Members of the CC TWG are welcome to offer comments for improving the inventory and forecast, but their comments should be provided through the sector-specific TWGs. CCS will be happy to coordinate with the facilitators of the other TWGs to communicate the CC TWG's comments.

Prioritization of Catalog of State Actions

Strait provided an overview of approaches that the TWG may use in developing its suggested priorities for analysis from the Catalog. One approach could be for the TWG to consolidate actions to narrow the list to about 10. Another approach, which is being used by the other TWGs, is to follow a balloting process by which each TWG member would select 10 actions from the catalog. The balloting process would be handled on an individual bases through email with the CCS facilitators to ensure confidentiality. The facilitators would summarize the balloting results and then discuss the results with the full TWG so that the full TWG could then decide on the top 10 or 12 actions to recommend to the GCGW as suggested priorities for analysis. After considering these approaches, the CC TWG agreed to use the remainder of today's call to try to consolidate actions on the catalog to a total of 10 to 12.

The TWG reviewed and prioritized the actions in the Catalog. The changes are noted in the catalog itself with comments summarized here. Overall, the TWG decided not to prioritize subheadings for each of the 17 actions in the Catalog, but to leave all of the subheadings intact for further consideration during its next call. The TWG went through the Catalog and decided if an action should be kept as "stand-alone" or consolidated with one or more actions; all of the actions were given a "High" rating as a recommended priority for analysis to the GCGW. The following summarizes the TWG's decisions on consolidation of actions and identifies key points discussed. All actions noted below and in the Catalog were decided unanimously, without objection, by the TWG members that participated in the call. The table at the end of the following discussion provides a summary of the TWG's decisions on consolidation of actions.

CC-1 GHG Inventories and Forecasts - The TWG agreed to keep this as a stand-alone action. It was noted that Arkansas currently does not have legal authority to regulate CO₂ and other GHGs and that this issue may also apply to CC-2, CC-3, and CC-5. It was suggested that inventories and forecasts should be updated periodically.

CC-2 GHG Reporting and CC-3 GHG Registry - The TWG agreed to combine CC-2 and CC-3. Strait noted that reporting can exist without a registry, but a registry cannot exist without reporting protocols. It was noted that a requirement in a federal bill passed and signed by the President last December (the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008) contains requirements for the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop mandatory GHG reporting requirements, with a proposed rule to be issued by this fall and a final rule to be issued within nine months after publication of the proposed rule. The EPA will be working with the states and *The Climate Registry* in developing its reporting requirements to ensure consistency to the extent possible.

CC-4 GHG Reduction Goals or Targets – The TWG agreed to keep this as a stand-alone action. The TWG discussed the possibility of combining CC-4 with CC-13. Some members noted that, since GHG reduction goals would be achieved with the cooperation of business and industry, linking this concept with the reduction goals themselves would be beneficial. However, since CC-4 is focused on considering statewide goals that could apply to all sectors of the economy, the TWG agreed that CC-4 should be a stand-alone action.

CC-5 Lead by Example – The TWG agreed to keep this as a stand-alone action.

CC-6 Local Government Climate Action Plans – The TWG agreed to keep this as a stand-alone action. The TWG noted the importance for providing educational and technical assistance to local government official to achieve this goal, rather than funding local projects. Incentives should also be emphasized under the concept of ‘assistance.’

CC-7 State Climate Public Education and Outreach – The TWG agreed to keep this as a stand-alone action.

CC-8 Market Based GHG Reduction Policies, CC-11 Regional GHG Reduction Efforts and CC-15 Carbon Credit System – The TWG agreed to consolidate CC-8, CC-11, and CC-15 under the title, “Optimizing Best-Scale of Reduction Policies.” The phrase “develop or adopt” should be used and/or considered for all potential programs in order to utilize the work of other TWGs whenever possible and appropriate.

CC-9 Creative Financial Mechanisms – The TWG agreed to keep this as a stand-alone action.

CC-10 Adaptation, CC-14 Greater Public Investment to Climate Data and Analysis, CC-17 Arkansas Climate Institute, and CC-18 Evaluate Impact of Climate Change Policy Options – The TWG agreed to combine these four actions. The TWG evaluated the subactions under each of these actions and agreed that they shared common themes (e.g., planning, data development, impact analysis, and risk and adaptive management) that could be addressed together under one action. These efforts should all complement efforts by state agencies, not supersede those efforts. It was decided that all four of the actions should be combined in one, with all sections listed as subsections of the retitled action.

CC-12 Clearinghouse and CC-13 Business-Oriented Climate Organization – The TWG agreed to combine CC-12 and CC-13.

CC-16 Regulatory Realignment – The TWG agreed to keep this as a stand-alone action. TWG members noted that this action could potentially affect or apply to many different policies (existing policies and new policies that are adopted by the GCGW). Strait noted that the template that all of the TWG’s will use to develop straw proposals for the options that the GCGW selects as priorities for analysis includes a section for addressing implementation issues. Since there are so many areas where improvements to government policies and regulations may be needed to facilitate GHG reductions, the TWG decided that this action should be considered by itself.

Summary of Consolidated State Actions

| Original Catalog Action No. | TWG Recommendations for Consolidation of Actions | Notes |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Stand-alone |
| 2 | 2,3 | Combine 2 & 3 |
| 3 | - | Combined with 3 |
| 4 | 4 | Stand-alone |
| 5 | 5 | Stand-alone |
| 6 | 6 | Stand-alone |
| 7 | 7 | Stand-alone |
| 8 | 8, 11, 15 | Combine 8, 11, & 15 |
| 9 | 9 | Stand-alone |
| 10 | 10, 14, 17, 18 | Combine 10, 14, 17 & 18 |
| 11 | - | Combined with 8 |
| 12 | 12, 13 | Combine 12 & 13 |
| 13 | - | Combined with 12 |
| 14 | - | Combined with 10 |
| 15 | - | Combined with 8 |
| 16 | 16 | Stand-alone |
| 17 | - | Combined with 10 |
| 18 | - | Combined with 10 |

Review of Next Steps

The next steps for the TWG are to complete its evaluation of the actions on the Catalog in order to develop and finalize its recommendations on suggested priorities for analysis for GCGW review and approval.

Agenda, Date and Time for Next Meetings

At the beginning of the call, the TWG reviewed the GCGW meeting schedule, and the TWG members agreed to the following for the next CC TWG meeting:

- Meeting #3, March 26, 2008, 3:00 – 4:30 PM CST

Public Comments and Announcements

Kelly Mulholland of Fayetteville stated that he was very impressed with the work of the TWG to date.