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MEETING SUMMARY
ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON GLOBAL WARMING
Cross Cutting (CC) Issues Technical Work Group (TWG)
Call #3, March 26, 2008
3:00 pm to 4:30 pm Central

Attendees:

TWG Members: Nick Brown, Joan Cash, Jerry Farris PhD, Rob Fisher, Christopher Ladner, Elizabeth Martin PhD, Jeffrey Short

Advisory Body Members: Nancy Ledbetter, Teresa Marks, Karen Bassett

Arkansas Governor's Office: Jillian Hicks

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

Members of the Public: 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 #2
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 #2 without comments or revisions.

GCGW Process Progress

Strait briefly covered the 10 step process (slide 4) and noted that the TWGs will complete the third step of the process today that involves identifying initial priorities for analysis to recommend to the GCGW for approval at its next meeting. All of the TWGs have completed the prior step to expand the universe of actions on the catalog to include actions applicable to Arkansas. During today's meeting, the CC TWG should complete its list of actions from the catalog to recommend to the GCGW as priorities for further development and analysis.

Prioritization of Catalog of State Actions

The TWG briefly reviewed the changes made to the Catalog at the last meeting. Prioritization of the subsections of each option was also discussed. The TWG members agreed to leave all subsections intact. Issues regarding subactions will be resolved during the development of the actions as policies for those actions that the GCGW approves as priorities for analysis. The TWG members feel that this list of actions and subactions in the catalog is robust and complete. CCS will revise the catalog to place subactions for consolidated options in one place and numbered sequentially.

Strait noted that the actions in the CC catalog are typically “enabling” actions to establish mechanisms to facilitate GHG reductions and tracking of reductions or carbon sinks. For actions that the GCGW approves as priorities for analysis, quantification of emission reductions and costs or cost savings is conducted by the other sector-specific TWGs where the expertise for conducting such analyses resides. Therefore, should the CC TWG recommend (and the GCGW approve) quantification of a CC option, quantification of that option would be transferred and coordinated with the appropriate sector-specific TWG.

Some policy options approved as priorities for analysis by the GCGW may overlap within a single TWG or between TWGs. The options that the GCGW approves as priorities for analysis will be reviewed to identify potential overlaps and the CCS facilitators will coordinate with the TWGs and the GCGW to ensure that emission reductions and costs or cost savings are not double counted during the quantification phase of the process.

It was noted that some of the CC options approved by the GCGW for analysis may have implementation or administrative costs. The TWG noted that it will be important to identify these costs in order to consider how to minimize the costs and identify funding to support implementation of the options.

CC-8 Market Based GHG Reduction Policies, CC-11 Regional GHG Reduction Efforts and CC-15 Carbon Credit System – Concerns were expressed that an evaluation of 8.1 (Establish or adopt an emissions cap-and-trade program) and 8.2 (Establish or adopt carbon tax incentives and disincentives) should not be limited to state borders, and should include regional and national efforts. The TWG will clarify this intent should the GCGW approve these actions for development as a policy option. The TWG supported broad, regional or national market-based approaches to mitigating GHG emissions rather than establishing a new program for Arkansas alone. The TWG supported voluntary efforts as they relate to CC-11, keeping the language and description of the policy as flexible as possible.

Agenda, Date and Time for Next Meetings

The TWG members agreed to the following for the next CC TWG meetings:

- Meeting #4, Wednesday, April 16, 2008, 3:00 – 4:30 PM CST
- Meeting #5, Thursday, May 8, 2008, 3:00 – 4:30 PM CST
- Meeting #6, Wednesday, June 4, 2008, 3:00 – 4:30 PM CST
- Meeting #7, Wednesday, July 16, 2008, 3:00 – 4:30 PM CST

The next GCGW is scheduled for April 9, 2008.

Public Comments and Announcements

There were no comments by the public.