



www.arclimatechange.us

MEETING SUMMARY
ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON GLOBAL WARMING
Energy Supply (ES) Technical Working Group (TWG)
Call #4, April 23, 2008
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Central Time

Attendees

GCGW: Nick Brown; Rob Fisher; Art Hobson, PhD; Kevan Inboden; Robert McAfee, PhD; Hugh McDonald; Kevin Smith; Gary Voigt; Kathy Webb

Governor's Office: Mark Harrison

Advisory Body Members: John Bethel

Center for Climate Strategies: Donna Boysen; Bill Dougherty, PhD

Background Documents (all posted at www.arclimatechange.us/ee.cfm)

1. Notice and Agenda
2. PowerPoint Presentation
3. Call #3 Meeting Summary
4. ES Straw Proposal Template

Introductions and Review of Agenda

Donna Boysen noted and welcomed the TWG members as well as representatives from the Arkansas Governor's Office. Donna asked for comments, questions, or concerns on the Meeting Summary for Call #3; there were none.

Donna reviewed specific slides of the PowerPoint presentation (provided as a background document), including a review of what the TWG has accomplished so far and the TWG's future steps and process.

GCGW Meeting Results and Goals

During the last GCGW meeting (April 9 / #5), the ES TWG's Policy Options were approved by the full Commission, with the following comment:

- Consider combining ES-4 and ES-8.

The TWG members discussed combining ES-4 (Grid-Based Renewable Energy Incentives and/or Barrier Removal) and ES-8 (Transmission System Upgrades) and determined that they should remain separate and not be combined.

The TWG members also discussed the merit of the GCGW decision to combine ES-5 (Approaches Benefiting from Regional Application) with former ES-10 (Carbon Tax). Mention was made of further defining this policy option with "Cap and Trade" language. Mention was also made of combining regional policy options. It was determined that the two policy options should be separated, for a total of 11 policy options. Donna stated that there will be additional opportunity to further define and address each priority policy option.

The primary goal for the next GCGW meeting (May 19 / #6) is to obtain GCGW approval of TWG straw proposal descriptions and design characteristics on the priority policy options. The ongoing goal for the next few GCGW meetings is to develop recommendations for improving the draft Arkansas GHG Inventory and Forecast.

Next Steps for ES TWG

Current goals of the ES TWG are to:

- Develop consensus recommendations for description and design characteristics of ES policy options in the draft straw proposal
- Identify policies/programs in place in Arkansas related to policy options (to define baselines)
- Prepare progress update with straw proposal for next GCGW meeting

Straw Proposal Development

Donna led the group in a review of the overall straw proposal format, then a review of the policy option descriptions. Continued review of the policy option descriptions, as well as a review of the policy option design sections, will be performed at the next meeting. Donna reiterated that this will not be the only opportunity to revise policy option language. Members provided comments and suggested revisions, which will be incorporated into the document for continued refinement during following meetings. Members will pursue selected policy options on their own and will present their findings at the next meeting.

It was noted that **two** members of the TWG may email each other, but more than two members on an email constitutes a meeting and would be subject to public notification and involvement.

Donna will prepare an initial revision of the straw proposal to be submitted to the TWG members, along with which TWG members volunteered for each policy option.

Date and Time for Next Meetings

The next ES TWG meeting is scheduled for:

- Meeting #5, May 9, 2008, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Central Time

Public Input and Announcements

Ken Smith of Audubon expressed appreciation for the attention given to energy efficiency and suggested that, while it may be addressed in the RCI TWG, this issue should also be discussed more fully and in a broader sense - perhaps in front of the entire Commission. He agreed with what was said about our best opportunities for making significant gain are in energy efficiency. He also recommended that the ES TWG address, understand, and monitor the pilot programs John Bethel and his staff at the Public Service Commission have developed. Ken was asked by a TWG member for his “take” on nuclear power. Ken responded by saying that, speaking cautiously, nuclear should be part of the mix. In general terms, he feels that nuclear is preferable over coal.

Eddie Moore of Arkansas Citizen’s First Congress concurred that the ES TWG should address energy efficiency and not let it just be relegated to the RCI TWG. He asked that efficiency be considered first as a power supply option, and that explicit efficiency goals be added to the ES straw proposal. In regards to the RPS item in policy ES-3, he suggested it be designed to include an efficiency portion that specifically addresses an offset of the emissions of the new power plants; he thought this might be a way to offset those emissions without needing to depend on whether or not, or even when, sequestration technology becomes available.