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MEETING SUMMARY
ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON GLOBAL WARMING
Cross Cutting (CC) Issues Technical Work Group (TWG)
Call #6, June 4, 2008
3:00 pm to 4:30 pm Central

Attendees:

TWG Members: Joan Cash, Jerry Farris Ph.D., Rob Fisher, Christopher Ladner, Elizabeth Martin Ph.D., Jeffrey Short

Advisory Body Members: Karen Bassett

Arkansas Governor's Office: Jillian Hicks

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

Members of the Public: Mark Alison, Esq., Trent Eiles

Background documents:

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

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. Summary of Call #5
3. PowerPoint for Teleconference
4. Draft Priority Policy Options for Analysis

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.

Dates of Upcoming GCGW Meetings

The GCGW will meet on previously scheduled dates of June 17th and July 31st with all final decisions to be made on September 25th. At the May 19th meeting, it was decided to hold an additional meeting at the end of August or in early September. That meeting will be held on either *Friday, September 5th* or *Monday, September 9th*. Members can indicate their preference to Jillian Hicks.

After the meeting on September 25th, the facilitators will be working to complete the necessary revisions in order to distribute draft documents to TWG members and GCGW members for review and comment. The Final Report is due to be delivered to the Governor on or before October 31st.

Review of Process and Next Steps

Strait reviewed the current status of the planning process. The CC TWG does not generally quantify the GHG reductions associated with its proposals, but does evaluate feasibility issues and other external impacts on the implementation of these options. Comments and suggestions regarding policy options assigned to other TWGs should be forwarded to Randy Strait, who will insure that they are forwarded to the appropriate TWG facilitator.

Review of Results from May 19 GCGW Meeting #6

The GCGW approved all the CC policy designs except for CC-10 (Climate-Change Related Economic Development), which was not ready for GCGW review at that meeting.

The GCGW suggested that the TWG consider including in CC-3 (Statewide Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals or Targets) short-, medium-, and long-range goals. Goals and/or targets for 2020 and 2050 should be reviewed as well.

For CC-6 (State Climate Public Education and Outreach), a GCGW member asked that the CC TWG check with the U.S. Department of Education to determine to what extent it has been incorporating global climate change into national curriculum requirements. A GCGW member also recommended adding additional target audiences to the policy design.

Review of Goals for June 17 GCGW Meeting #7

The goal for the CC TWG is to obtain GCGW comments on and approval of TWG straw proposals on priority policy options at the next GCGW meeting on June 17. This includes completing the design characteristics for CC-10 for GCGW approval, addressing the comments that the GCGW provided on CC-6 at its May 19 meeting, and completing the remaining elements of the straw proposal template for all of the priority policy options (except for CC-3). As noted, work on CC-3 is being delayed until the quantification results for priority policy options being analyzed by the other TWGs becomes available; however, the TWG should address the comments that the GCGW has provided on this option during the April 9 and May 19 GCGW meetings.

Review and Approval of Prior Call Summary

The TWG did not act on approval of the draft summary for the prior call due to time constraints. The TWG will act on the draft summary for Call #5 during its next call.

Review and Further Development of Draft Straw Proposals

The TWG agreed to review CC-10 and CC-11 first followed by CC-4. Due to time constraints after discussing these options, the TWG was unable to review the other options during the call. The following summarizes the TWG's comments for each of the three options.

CC-4 (The State's Own Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Lead-by-Example))

The TWG discussed the text under the Implementation Mechanisms section of the straw proposal. The focus of the implementation can take two tracks: (1) actions that the state government can take to reduce its own life-cycle carbon footprint, and (2) recommend changes that will streamline processes where state government has review and/or approval authority to encourage non-governmental entities to reduce their life-cycle carbon footprint. Even without authority to control or reduce GHG emissions, raising them for examination during for example,

environmental assessments, environmental impact statements, and energy and transportation projects will help increase awareness and perhaps consideration of lower-GHG alternatives.

CC-10 (Climate-Change Related Economic Development)

A TWG member noted that they have been in contact with the Arkansas Economic Development Center and the local Chamber of Commerce to learn how new businesses are recruited within communities. Other members are asked to provide contacts to other agencies or organizations as well. Economic development will impact several other policy options. This option should reflect the need for new technology and actions to reduce GHG emissions. For example, alternative energy sources could be encouraged through the appropriate programs.

Public, private, and non-governmental organization funding sources should be identified and utilized to assist with implementation of this option. These include philanthropic as well as environmental organizations. A clearinghouse for these efforts would be helpful. These sources need not be limited to environmental based sources, but can especially include agricultural organizations and corporations. Axion and Genesis were cited as resources and examples. It was suggested that this area is the crux of the mission for the Climate Institute.

CC-11 (Regulatory Realignment in Government to Encourage Constructive Climate Action)

Some members noted that carbon dioxide (CO₂) is not recognized as an air containment under Arkansas' air pollution regulations. The TWG agreed to include under the Policy Design section of the straw proposal a recommendation that the state's air pollution regulations be amended to remove any barriers that prevent it from controlling CO₂ emissions. This will enable Arkansas to mitigate CO₂, as well as to effectively coordinate its GHG mitigation policies and programs with future regional and national policies and programs. The TWG discussed and agreed to further developing the section under Implementation Mechanisms to recommend the use of energy audits for establishing baseline levels needed to set achievable goals for reducing emissions. The state should consider a phased approach starting with the larger state government agencies first to develop protocols and experience that can then be used to assist smaller agencies and the university system. Such an approach should be designed to leverage experience and assessment tools that can be used by other entities (e.g., school districts) to foster consistency in developing and implementing audit protocols on a routine basis. It was noted that this policy option is closely aligned with CC-4 (The State's Own Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Lead-by-Example)). It was also noted that the recommendation for energy audits may overlap with RCI-3 (Reduced Energy Use in State-Owned Buildings: Government "Lead by Example") if the RCI TWG decides to include energy audits in this option. The CC and RCI TWGs will need to coordinate on this going forward to ensure there is not duplication.

Review of Next Steps

TWG members that offered to provide revisions to the straw proposals should submit their revisions to CCS by next Monday. CCS noted that it will revise the straw proposal for CC-4 to address the TWG's comments on Implementation Mechanisms. CCS will send the revised straw proposal file to the CC TWG members for review and comment before posting the file to the website for the next GCGW meeting. In preparing the file for the upcoming GCGW meeting, Strait noted that since the CC TWG does not estimate the emission reductions and costs or cost savings of the CC options, and, therefore, the sections of the template relating to "Estimated

GHG Reductions and Costs or Cost Savings” and “Type(s) of GHG Reductions” do not have to be filled in by the CC TWG.

Agenda, Date and Time for Next Meetings

The TWG members agreed to cancel the July 16 CC TWG meeting and added the following two meetings:

- Meeting #7, Wednesday, July 9, 2008, 3:00 – 4:30 PM CST [1500-1630]
- Meeting #8, Wednesday, July 23, 2008, 3:00 – 4:30 PM CST [1500-1630]

The remaining CC TWG meetings will be scheduled during the July 9 CC TWG meeting.

The next GCGW meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2008. Documents must be posted on the project website by June 11th.

Public Comments and Announcements

No public comment at this meeting.