



MEETING SUMMARY
GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON GLOBAL WARMING
Cross Cutting (CC) Issues Technical Work Group (TWG)

Call #8, July 23, 2008
3:00-4:30 pm Central

Attendees:

TWG Members: Jerry Farris, Rob Fisher, Elizabeth (Betty) Martin, PhD., Jeff Short

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

Arkansas Governor's Office: Jillian Hicks

Center for Climate Strategies: Randy Strait, Katie Pasko

Members of the Public: One person, name unknown

Background documents:

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

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. Draft Summary of Call #7
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. The TWG approved the draft summary for CC TWG Call #7 without any revisions.

Dates and Times for Future GCGW and TWG Meetings and GCGW Progress

Strait reviewed with the TWG dates and times for the remaining GCGW meetings. A request for availability will be sent to all members in order to facilitate scheduling of two meetings in August. These meetings need to take place in enough time to prepare for the September 9 meeting of the GCGW.

GCGW Process Progress and Review of Next Steps for TWG

Strait provided a brief review of where the TWG and GCGW are in the overall process. The GCGW will begin review and final approval of pending priority policy options at its next meeting on July 31. The TWGs should continue to be working to complete their

recommendations on as many of the pending priority policy options as possible in preparation for this meeting.

Goals for July 31 GCGW Meeting #8

The TWG should be working to complete its recommendations on several of the pending priority policy options. This includes filling out the TWG's recommendations on the remaining elements of the template for each of the options.

Discussion Regarding Priority Policy Options

The TWG reviewed and discussed CC-2 (State GHG Reporting and Registry), CC-4 (The State's Own Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Lead-by-Example)), through CC-6 (State Climate Public Education and Outreach), as well as CC-9 (Adaptation and Vulnerability). CCS will revise the policy option description file to incorporate the TWG's comments for distribution to the TWG. The TWG will review the POD prior to presentation to the GCGW on July 31.

The TWG unanimously approved CC- 4, CC-5, CC-6, CC-9 to be presented to the GCGW for Approval, with the changes outlined below.

Climate Change Institute References

Options that reference the CCI are CC-4, 7, 8, 9, and 11. The TWG created language to provide a bridge between the CCI and other policies. The following sentence will be added to the Implementation Sections of CC-4,7,8 and 11: *Until the Climate Change Institute is established, the state will decide on the appropriate lead agency or agencies for implementing this policy.*

CC-2 Reporting and Registry

Changes indicate that the state would have to join the Climate Registry. In order to join as a board member, the Governor would have to sign onto the principles of the Registry and then appoint an individual to represent him.

TWG members are to send additional comments to Randy Strait.

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

Members agreed to accept the changes shown from the last meeting.

The TWG agreed that the change from 'multi-agency group' to the 'Climate Change Institute' (CCI) is correct. The members discussed interim planning for the CCI responsibilities until it is established.

The members agreed to make the following changes:

Change the revised language in Types of GHG Reductions to read the same as the language in CC-5: *This recommendation is an enabling policy to encourage local governments to develop and implement climate action plans to reduce GHG emissions. This recommendation does not directly reduce GHG emissions by itself.*

In Key Uncertainties, add the phrase *‘and funding mechanisms’* after ‘specific policy options’.

In Additional Benefits and Costs, change ‘will’ to ‘can’.

CC-5 Comprehensive Local Government Climate Action Plans

The TWG unanimously accepted all the proposed changes to language in the policy option.

Add #6 to the Policy Design - Goals section: *‘Encourage local communities to consider adoption of GCGW recommendations in their local action plans.’*

CC-6 State Climate Public Education and Outreach

The TWG agreed to change the term ‘global warming’ to ‘*climate literacy*’ to better describe the overall goal of education and outreach efforts throughout the policy option language.

In the Policy Description section, change, in the first line, ‘Global Warming strategies’ to *‘strategies for addressing climate change’*.

At the end of the first paragraph, delete ‘reduce the effects of climate change’ to *‘mitigate the effects of climate change’*.

In the Policy Design section, add to the last line of the first paragraph, *‘and the need to work together to ensure ample coordination to be broadly effective.’*

The TWG agreed to change the term ‘global warming’ to ‘*climate literacy*’ to better describe the overall goal of education and outreach efforts throughout the policy option language in the following places:

Policy Design - First line of first paragraph

Policy Design – Second line of second paragraph

Add to the Target Audience – State Executive Agencies section, as the new first bullet: *The committee should work with the governor’s office and state agencies to ensure a coordinated effort to implement an effective program that is consistent with the review of climate literacy programs, curricula and courses.*

In the bullet beginning ‘Assess the level’, add *‘and variability’* after ‘climate change’.

In the last bullet of Target Audience: General Public section, change ‘global warming’ to *‘carbon’*.

In the first bullet of Target Audience: Future Generations section, add *‘literacy’* to (a), so that it reads ‘(a) gaps in climate literacy’.

In the Timing section, change ‘global warming’ to *‘climate change’*.

In the Implementation Mechanisms section, add a fifth bullet, *‘Develop and integrate a climate oriented approach to teaching science standards.’*

In the Related Policies/Programs in Place section, add a reference to the Division of Agriculture and other pertinent agencies.

In the Additional Benefits and Costs section, add ‘*will likely*’ after ‘outreach’. Add ‘*Additional funding may be required to support ADEQ coordination efforts for education and outreach.*’

CC-9 Adaptation and Vulnerability

Change the first sentence of the Policy Description section to read: *The Governor’s office should seek government and private funding to help secure efforts for long-term monitoring of climate change in the state.*

Changes to Policy Design - Goals and Timing section:

The first line should read: *As soon as possible, the governor’s office will:*

The first and third bullets, delete ‘By 2020’

Change the language of Implementation Mechanisms to read: *To be addressed by the Governor’s office.*

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

In order for Arkansas to record, register or regulate CO₂ emissions, legislative action is required to treat CO₂ as a pollutant. Currently, it is specifically exempted from all such regulations. Federal law and regulation may override this exemption in the future. The need to remove this exemption is an implementation issue for many actions, not just the proposed policy options being created by the GCGW and the TWGs.

The entire section on state audits overlaps with policy options in the RCI and ES sector, currently numbered as RCI-3a and RCI-3b. Change the note to read ‘*[Note: The following language is also included in RCI-3a (Reduced Energy Use in New and Retrofitted State-Owned Buildings) and RCI-3b (Reduced Energy Use in State-Owned Buildings)].* Delete ‘The RCI TWG adopted’, ‘for inclusion in’ and ‘therefore, this language will be removed.’

The TWG agreed that this policy option is still a work-in-progress.

General Comments

The TWG is asked to review redundant or overlapping policies for assignment of specific sections or joint work by the TWGs.

Based on a request from a GCGW member, a note has been inserted under the Policy Design section of CC-3.

Agenda for Next Meeting

The TWG will review the results of the GCGW meeting and continue review of outstanding policy options.

The meeting date will be determined after response from members as to availability.

Public Comments and Announcements

None