



WWW.MTCLIMATECHANGE.US

**SUMMARY OF TELECONFERENCE MEETING #8
CROSS-CUTTING (CC) ISSUES TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG)**

April 5, 2007

Attendance:

1. TWG Members:
 - Rep. Sue Dickenson, House District 25
 - Ted Dodge, National Carbon Offset Coalition
 - Mary Fitzpatrick, Self-Employed
 - Gloria Flora, Sustainable Obtainable Solutions
 - Chuck McGraw, Natural Resources Defense Council
 - Shane Mogenson, Nance Petroleum
 - Cheryl Reichert, Citizens for Clean Energy
2. MT Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ):
 - Jeff Blend
 - Jim Boyer
 - Lou Moore
3. Center for Climate Strategies (CCS):
 - Ken Colburn, TWG Co-Facilitator
 - Randy Strait, TWG Co-Facilitator
4. Other Attendees:
 - None

Background documents:

(all posted at: http://www.mtclimatechange.us/Cross_Cutting.cfm.)

1. Meeting Notice & Agenda (including provisions for public access)
2. Draft Summary for Call #7
3. PowerPoint© presentation for meeting
4. Draft Policy Option Descriptions
5. Draft Policy Option Descriptions - Matrices

Discussion items and key issues:

This was the eighth conference call of the CC TWG.

1. Ken Colburn called the meeting to order, completed the roll call and reviewed the agenda and plans for the call.
2. The TWG did not have any changes to the summary for Call #7.
3. Dates and Times for Remaining TWG Calls: See item #1 under “Action Items” at the end of this summary.

4. Review goals for CCAC Meeting #5: Colburn noted that the next CCAC meeting date has been changed from April 26 to May 11, 2007. The assignment for the CC TWG going into this meeting is to further develop the straw proposals for each of the priority policy options for review and approval by the CCAC.
5. Next Steps for the TWG: Colburn noted that in the call today the TWG will review and discuss the revisions to the straw proposals for the policy options that the small groups provided to address the TWGs comments from the prior call. Colburn reviewed the revisions that had been made. The following provides a summary of these and additional revisions to the straw proposals as agreed to by the TWG:

- Inventories and Forecasting (CC-1):

The TWG agreed to the following revisions to the straw proposal:

- Under Goals, first bullet, remove the parenthetical note “(e.g., transportation, electric power transmission and distribution, or water and sewer)” at the end of the second sentence.
- Under Timing, second sentence, replace the phrase “The process should repeat as often as necessary to track significant reductions or increases,…” with “The process should be updated to reflect significant reductions or increases,…”
- Under Additional Benefits and Costs, the TWG approved of moving the text concerning surveys to the Education and Outreach (CC-4) option.
- There were no comments on the text added under “Key Uncertainties” and “Feasibility Issues.”

A TWG member noted that the discussion under “Key Assumptions” did not appear to reflect assumptions relative to the policy option design. Colburn noted that this element of the template is used by other TWGs to identify key assumptions used in quantifying options. The CC TWG could also use this element of the template to cite any assumptions supporting the design of CC options. The small group agreed to review and revise the text on “Key Assumptions” for discussion by the full TWG during the next call.

- GHG Reporting (CC-2): There were no revisions to the straw proposal since the prior call. The TWG did not have any additional comments on this option.
- GHG Registry (CC-3):

The TWG agreed to the following revisions:

- Under “Implementation Mechanisms,” the TWG agreed with the text revisions. The TWG also agreed that incremental staffing and resource requirements are expected to be minimal if Montana joins a regional or national GHG registry (i.e., able to be addressed by existing staff up to perhaps an additional one-quarter full-time equivalent (FTE) staff person).

- Education and Outreach (CC-4):

The TWG agreed to the following revisions to the straw proposal:

- Under “Goals,” the TWG agreed to the text (moved from CC-1) that the state conduct a voluntary survey of a cross-section of Montana residents’ as a method for supporting monitoring of this option. The TWG also agreed to include the small group’s draft thought piece on what the survey could cover as an attachment to the straw proposal.
- Under “Implementation Mechanisms,” the TWG agreed with the text revisions. The TWG also estimated that incremental staffing and resource requirements would be at least two additional FTE’s, one FTE dedicated to overall planning, coordination, and the measurement of progress in the implementation of those CCAC recommendations accepted for implementation by the Governor, and a second FTE dedicated to public education and outreach efforts, maintaining a strong web-based presence, and coordinating with related volunteer, community, and other groups.

The TWG also agreed that it will be important to have a web-based internet application to implement the goals of this option. The web-based application would provide a method for communities and individuals to network and share information, serve as an education tool (e.g., provide links to resources and reference materials), and provide a method for the state to share information with communities and individuals. The small group agreed to add text to the straw proposal to highlight the importance for developing a web-based application to efficiently implement the goals of this option. A TWG member noted that in so doing, it will be important for the state to provide training to individuals at the local level (e.g., community leaders) that can provide hands-on training on the use of the web-based application to individuals that may not be familiar with the technology.

- GHG Reduction Goals and Targets (CC-6): Colburn noted that detailed work on this option would await the results of the quantification analysis for each policy option to be conducted by the other TWGs.

- Establish a Target for Reducing the State’s Own GHG Emissions (CC-7.1):

The TWG agreed to the following revisions to the straw proposal:

- The TWG agreed with the editorial revisions to the text for the “Policy Description.”
- Under “Goals,” the TWG agreed to add a placeholder to reflect the baseline year from which GHG emission reductions would be calculated.
- The TWG agreed to the text revisions for “Implementation Mechanisms, Related Policies/Programs in Place, Types(s) of GHG Reductions, Estimated GHG Savings and Costs per MTCO_{2e}, Key Uncertainties, Additional Benefits and Costs, and Feasibility Issues.”

Colburn reviewed the state goals and targets table distributed to the TWG prior to the call. Colburn noted that the information in the table represents

statewide GHG reduction goals/targets and not goals/targets that states have adopted for their own government operations. He also noted that some changes have occurred recently that are not reflected in the table (e.g., announcement of the five-state initiative that has not set any goals/targets and a recent announcement by New Jersey with new goals/targets not reflected in the table). A TWG member also noted that state agencies and private entities that sign on to CCX agree to reduce their GHG emissions by 6% by 2010 from a baseline representing an average of GHG emissions from 1998 through 2000. CCX appears likely to set further GHG reduction goals for 2020 soon.

Colburn noted that the statewide goals/targets shown in the table could be used by the TWG as a guide for evaluating a possible GHG reduction goal/target for state government operations for Montana. However, the TWG may want to wait for the results of the quantification analysis for each policy option to be conducted by the other TWGs so that this information can be used in evaluating possible GHG reduction goal/target for Montana state government operations. The TWG agreed to defer its decision on recommendations for a goal/target for state government operations pending further deliberation.

- Climate-Neutral Bonding (CC-7.2): Colburn noted the TWG for the Residential, Commercial, and Industrial (RCI) sector is addressing the quantification of this option.
- Require GHG Emissions Assessments as Part of Environmental Impact Statements (CC-7.3):

The TWG agreed to the following revisions to the straw proposal:

- The TWG agreed with the editorial revisions to the text for the “Policy Description.”
- The TWG discussed what additional resources would be required of state agency staff to implement this option and the TWG agreed that the incremental resource requirements would be minimal. CCS will revise the text under “Key Uncertainties” and “Additional Benefits and Costs” to reflect the TWG’s discussion.
- The TWG agreed to the text revisions for “Related Policies/Programs in Place” and “Types(s) of GHG Reductions”.

The small group noted that it will revise the straw proposal to strengthen the description and goals of the proposal. Gloria Flora agreed to draft revised language for the TWG’s consideration.

Consider Joining CCX (CC-7.4): The small group noted that it is working on this straw proposal and plans to provide revisions to the straw proposal for the TWG’s next meeting.

6. Call to the Public: There were no public participants.

Announcements: None.

Next steps:

1. The next CC TWG call (#9) will be **Wednesday, May 2, 2007, from 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Mountain time.**
2. Draft Policy Option Descriptions: CCS will coordinate revisions to the draft straw proposals for each policy, and will distribute the revised straw proposals to the CC TWG prior to its May 2 meeting.
3. Distribution of other information: CCS will coordinate with the small groups to distribute information provided by TWG members relevant to the further development of the policy options.