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MEETING SUMMARY
MARYLAND CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY GROUP
Agriculture, Forestry, and Waste Management Technical Work Group
(AFW TWG)

Call #6, November 8, 2007

Attendance:

Technical Working Group: Gary Allen (*Center for Chesapeake Communities*), Bob Ensor (*Howard Soil Conservation District*), Joel Dunn (*The Conservation Fund*), George Kelly (*Environmental Banc & Exchange*), Laura Miller (*Montgomery County Dept. of Environmental Protection*), Cindy Parker (*Johns Hopkins School of Public Health*), James Remuzzi (*Forestry for the Bay*), Eric Sprague (*Pinchot Institute for Conservation*).

Maryland State Department Representatives: Renee Fizer (*MDE – Air Quality*), Katy Perry (*MDE/Air and Radiation*), Chris Rice (*MEA*).

Center for Climate Strategies (CCS): Gloria Flora, Joe Pryor

Public Attendees: Jeff King, *Environmental Planner, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments*

Background documents: (www.mdclimatechange.us/GHG_Agriculture_Forestry.cfm)

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. Summary of Meeting #5
3. Power Point for Call #6
4. AFW Summary of Priority Policy Options
5. AFW Comprehensive Policy Options Descriptions
6. AFW Straw Proposal Template
7. Preliminary Draft Emissions and Forecast Appendices

Discussion items and key issues:

1. Call to order and roll call
2. Review and approve prior call summary
3. Review input from the MWG on proposed policy options
4. Review of Straw Proposal Template
5. Formation of Small Groups to Work on Straw Proposals
6. Discussion of Draft Inventory and Forecast
7. Next Steps for AFW TWG
8. Public Input and Announcements
9. Agenda, Time and Date for Next Meeting & Subsequent TWG Meetings

Purposes and Outcomes

1. Agenda, background and current materials for the MCCC and MWG meetings are available at www.mdclimatechange.us.
2. **Milestones** The Final Report is targeted for April 20, 2008.

MWG Input on Proposed Policy Options

1. TWG expressed concerns about the lack of AFW inclusion in the Early Action Items in the Interim Report. (Both items recommended were moved to Tier 2.)
 - a. In particular TWG thought that forest sequestration as an important offset option was not emphasized in Interim Report.
 - b. MDE advised that the options that were included in the Interim Report were included based on MWG voting.
 - c. Forest Management Option was originally removed as an early action item but was replaced at the end of the meeting as a Tier 2 item.
2. Tier 2 items will be moving forward and used to support legislation as data are developed. These will be slightly behind Early Action Items. Order does not imply significance.
3. MWG agreed to drop soil carbon management as a separate option, but recommended including in other options as appropriate.
4. MWG approved all policy options submitted.
5. See “AFW Comprehensive Policy Options Descriptions” for other suggestions.

Straw Proposals

1. Straw proposals process
 - a. TWG members volunteer to work on one or more policy options to develop Straw Proposals.
 - b. Sub-groups of volunteers ‘meet’ independently.
 - c. Craft Straw Proposals (outside experts and research can be used).
 - d. Note that options have been reordered and grouped by sector.
 - e. Current language provided as starting point.
 - f. Gloria provided an outline of the straw proposal template document.
2. **AFW-1:** Expanded Use of and Farm Feedstocks and Bi-Products for Energy Production.
 - a. Gary Allen (Leader)
 - b. *Dan Rider – suggested by TWG*
 - c. Chris Rice
3. **AFW-2:** In-State Liquid Biofuels Production.
 - a. Eric Sprague (leader)
 - b. Chris Rice
4. **AFW-3:** Nutrient Trading with Carbon Benefits.
 - a. George Kelly (leader)
 - b. Bob Ensor
5. **AFW-4:** Protection & Conservation of Agricultural Land, Coastal Wetlands and Forested Land.
 - a. James Remuzzi (leader)
 - b. Eric Sprague

6. **AFW-5:** Afforestation, Reforestation and Restoration of Forests and Wetlands.
 - a. Laura Miller (leader)
 - b. James Remuzzi
 - c. Gary Allen
7. **AFW-6:** Mitigation of Loss Due to Insects, Disease, Pests and Invasive Species.
 - a. *Suggested - Dan Rider (leader)*
 - b. Laura Miller
 - c. James Remuzzi
8. **AFW-7:** Forest Management for Enhanced Carbon Sequestration.
 - a. James Remuzzi (Leader)
 - b. Eric Sprague
 - c. Gary Allen
 - d. *Laura Miller – please keep informed*
9. **AFW-8:** Managing Urban Trees and Forests for Greenhouse Gas Benefits.
 - a. Cindy Parker
 - b. Gary Allen
10. **AFW 9:** “Buy Local” Programs for Sustainable Agriculture, Wood and Wood Products.
 - a. Cindy Parker
 - b. *Suggested - Dan Rider*
 - c. *Laura Miller – please keep informed*
11. **AFW-10:** Waste Management through Source Reduction & Advanced Recycling.
 - a. Cindy Parker (leader)
 - b. *Suggested - Edward Dexter (MDE/Solid Waste Program)*
12. Refer to the revised Maryland AFW Straw Proposal template available on the website, http://www.mdclimatechange.us/GHG_Agriculture_Forestry.cfm - under Call #6.

Draft Inventory and Forecast

1. Reiterated that FIA data should not be used at this point.

Other issues

1. Joel recently spoke with the MD Secretary of Natural Resources who has intent for DNR to become carbon neutral and wants to be a leader in *lead by example* through energy efficiency and forestry offsets.
2. DNR is looking for ideas for how to achieve carbon neutrality.
 - a. TWG members can send any relevant information to Joel Dunn.
3. Gloria will raise with Cross Cutting group who is developing the straw proposal for the Lead by Example option.
4. Chris Rice today was attending the opening of a 4mm barrel bio-diesel plant on the coast.

Next steps and agreements:

1. Straw Proposal Process:
 - a. Sub-groups begin development of straw proposals focusing work primarily on Policy Description, Policy Design and Recent/Related Actions.
 - b. Sub-group proposals will be due to CCS before Thanksgiving (Nov. 21)
 - c. TWG reviews work in progress, completing review by end of call 11/27.
 - d. CCS forwards to Mitigation Working Group for November 30 meeting.

- e. MWG will review, modify and approve basic straw proposals.
 - f. TWG then refines straw proposals for quantification and cost/benefit analysis.
2. The next TWG meeting (Call#7) will be held on **November 27th, 2007 from 1:00 to 3:00 EST**. The purpose of the next call will be to review straw proposal inputs from each of the sub groups and to discuss the next steps for developing straw proposals.
3. Future AFW TWG meetings:
 - a. Call #8 is scheduled for: December 11th 1pm to 3pm EST.
4. Group members who cannot make the calls can request a personal update in addition to the meeting notes.
5. Next MWG meeting is November 30, 2007.
6. TWG members are encouraged to forward germane data and reference material to Gloria Flora gflora@s-o-solutions.org for sharing with the rest of the TWG.

Materials for each call will be posted at the Maryland Climate Change website (see address above). CCS will notify the TWG members when the materials are available for review.

Thanks again to all members for your meaningful contributions and excellent discussion.