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MEETING SUMMARY
SOUTH CAROLINA CLIMATE, ENERGY AND COMMERCE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

Agriculture, Forestry, and Waste Management Technical Work Group
(AFW TWG)

Call #2, June 12, 2007, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Attendance:

1. Technical Work Group Members:

- John Bonitz – Agriculture Energy Coordinator, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
- Art Braswell – Division Director, Mining and Solid Waste Management, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
- Chris Fisher – Fisher Recycling
- Bob Giangorgi – Vice President, Priority Metrics Group
- Richard Horton – Sustainable Energy Manager, South Carolina Energy Office
- Joe James – CEO, Corporation for Economic Opportunity
- Bob King – Deputy Commissioner, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
- Edwin Lesley – President, Business Development Corporation of South Carolina
- Carlton Owen – President/CEO, US Endowment for Forestry and Communities
- Mark L. Robertson – Executive Director, The Nature Conservancy of South Carolina
- Guy Sabin – Environmental Management Section Chief, South Carolina Forestry Commission
- Bob Scott – President, South Carolina Forestry Association
- Daniel Tufford – University of South Carolina, Dept. of Biological Sciences
- Johnny Williamson – CEO, South Carolina Soya, LLC.

2. Center for Climate Strategies (CCS) Staff:

- Steve Roe – Lead facilitator
- Brad Strode

3. South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC):

- Michael Juras – SCDHEC; Agency Liaison

4. South Carolina Agency Observers

- Leslie Coolidge – SCDHEC

5. Public Attendees:

- Chantal H. Fryer – Senior Manager, Recycling Market Development, South Carolina Department of Commerce

6. Technical Work Group Members not attending:

- Larry Boyleston – Director, Business and Government Relations, South Carolina Dept. of Agriculture
- Cary Chamblee – Legislative and Government Consultant for South Carolina Wildlife Federation and Sierra Club
- Scott Fennell – Carolina Waste
- John Frampton – Director, Department of Natural Resources
- John Long – Newberry Crop Row Farmer, Trees + Livestock
- Bob Perry – Wildlife Biologist, Environmental Programs Section, DNR
- Danny Verdin – South Carolina Senate

Background documents:

(all posted at http://www.scclimatechange.us/Agriculture_Forestry.cfm)

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. PowerPoint for Teleconference.
3. AFW Draft Catalog of State Actions.
4. AFW State Actions Descriptions.
5. Agriculture, Forestry & Waste Management Appendices for the SC GHG Inventory & Forecast (I&F).

Discussion items and key issues:

This was the second conference call of the AFW TWG.

1. CCS called the meeting to order, completed the roll call and reviewed the agenda and plans for the call.
2. CCS reviewed the draft summary of Call 1 and provided an opportunity for TWG members to provide feedback on the summary. No revisions or comments were offered by the TWG.
3. The stepwise planning process was reviewed. The TWG's objectives for this call were to continue its discussion of the draft GHG emissions I&F and identify a full range of possible actions. Of these objectives, completing a review of the catalog of GHG actions was most important, since the TWG needed to present a complete catalog to the CECAC for their June 27 meeting.
4. A TWG member raised a question from Call 1 regarding the progress of the Energy Bill in South Carolina. The ensuing discussion revealed that there are portions of this bill that have passed the House and Senate as a part of the Hydrogen Bill. CCS agreed to follow up with Erika Hartwig and identify any new developments as recent actions in the State Actions Catalog.
5. CCS began the overview and discussion of the State Actions Catalog. Summaries of the discussion of each group of actions are provided below.
 - a. AFW-1: The point is brought up that the Catalog is lacking a provision for the increased use of non-fuel or non-electricity generating bio-products (e.g. bio-

polymers, bio-char). The TWG agreed to add an option for bio-products to AFW-1.2. The title of the AFW-1 group will also be revised to reflect production of “bio-products”. A TWG member also recommended adding an option for biomass pellet projects; the TWG did not object to this addition.

- b. AFW-2: No comments on this option were offered by the TWG.
- c. AFW-3: A proposal was made to implement an action that encapsulates crops used for cellulosic ethanol under AFW-3. However, CCS felt that this was captured under AFW-1.2. CCS will make a specific reference to cellulosic ethanol in AFW-1.2 to specify an interest in cellulosic ethanol. CCS will also include a note that work is being done by industry to produce butanol, which could have benefits over ethanol.
- d. AFW-4: A TWG member questioned whether AFW-4.1 is restricted to grassland. CCS commented that if the conversion of cropland to forestland or other land uses are to be considered, those might necessitate separate options. TWG members reiterated that there was uncertainty surrounding ethanol markets which make it difficult to predict the economic drivers of agriculture and forest land-use in the future. A new option was added (AFW-4.3), promoting land use management that promotes the conversion of cropland to forests (and protection of forests that have already been converted from croplands). Within this new option, a TWG member mentioned that the potential for “silvipasture”, a practice combining silviculture with pasture land, should be mentioned. CCS felt that a silvicultural/livestock related option might fit best as a new option under AFW-3. Therefore, it will be added as Option 3.3.
- e. AFW-5: A TWG member noted recent actions regarding this option. An example of current programs is the “Certified South Carolina Grown” within the South Carolina Dept. of Agriculture to market local products. A recent agriculture and forestry development that develops the root systems is discussed and will be followed up on a later date. CCS believes that this concept could be reflected as an implementation mechanism under an existing forestry option (e.g. 7.4). If the TWG feels that the option could result in significant GHG benefits for the agricultural sector (sequestration of significant new below ground biomass), then a new option would probably be needed.
- f. AFW-6: As per the suggestion in AFW-1.1, the development of forestry bioproducts will be added to AFW-6.1, as well as the title of the AFW-6 group. A member brought a recent action under AFW-6.4 to the TWG’s attention; the University of South Carolina (USC) is currently developing a biomass gasification project to produce heat and steam. Details will be researched and provided by TWG members.
- g. AFW-7: A TWG member noted that there is an ongoing biomass utilization program with the USFS to reduce wildfire hazard and wisely use the recovered biomass. Another TWG member brought up the point that the I&F results for forest carbon flux that include soil carbon do not show a strong reduction potential from forest lands. Also brought to the TWG’s attention is SC’s rank amongst other states regarding the conversion of forest and agricultural land to

urban uses (SC ranked #1 in the mid 1990's per a USDA study). It is suggested that the recent actions for AFW-7.1 be amended to show that the change in tax law was federal, rather than only in SC, and omit the point that claims stable acreage of forestland in SC since 1947.

- h. AFW-8: A question was raised regarding AFW-8.3. The TWG member raising the question suggested that there are products beyond building materials that can be used to sequester carbon. Another TWG member suggested the term "engineered wood products." CCS will revise the title of this option to include engineered wood products. It was brought to the attention of the TWG that there is a bill before the governor regarding green building, requiring all new public buildings to meet LEED and Green Globes standards.
 - i. AFW-9: An organization called the Recycled Market Development Advisory Council was brought to the attention of the TWG as a source of recent actions for Advanced Recycling. Another program is underway in South Carolina to promote business recycling (the "Smart Business Program"). DHEC is also issuing a new rule covering composting. This rule is due to be out in late July and covers wood waste only.
 - j. AFW-10: A state-owned utility is currently producing approximately 20 MW of electricity in SC from landfill methane gas. There are more plants currently under development. While this is currently mentioned in the recent actions column, the TWG is asked to provide any additional information to CCS to improve the recent actions list.
 - k. AFW-11: One of the TWG members suggested that micro-hydro generation be included as a means to reduce energy use at wastewater treatment facilities. This is a technology can generate electricity from small flow rates of water.
6. CCS solicited input from the public. One member of the public was present. The point was raised that a recent action exists that the Dept. of Commerce is currently considering incentives for recycling, especially business recycling. Also, waste-to-energy options and compost options are also being considered. CCS asked the respondent to forward a description of these items, so that they can be considered by the TWG for incorporation into the catalog.

Next steps and agreements:

1. The date for the next TWG meeting is scheduled for July 17, from 2:00-3:30 pm. Call 4 is scheduled for August 8, from 2:00-3:30 pm.
2. The next call will review input from the CECAC on the catalog; discuss next steps in prioritizing options for analysis; and begin to improve the draft I&F.
3. Members are asked to submit any further comments or revisions regarding the catalog to Steve Roe or Brad Strode via email as soon as possible, so that they may be included in the AFW Actions Catalog that will be discussed at the upcoming CECAC meeting.