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MEETING SUMMARY
SOUTH CAROLINA CLIMATE, ENERGY AND COMMERCE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

Cross Cutting (CC) Issues Technical Work Group (TWG)

Call #1, May 31, 2007, 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Attendance:

1. Technical Working Group members:
Kirsten Dow, Paul Gayes, Greg Carbone, Lynn Barnes, Braxton Davis, David Stoney, Trish Jerman
2. Center for Climate Strategies (CCS) staff:
Ken Colburn, Randy Strait, Tom Peterson
3. South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)
Michael Juras, Agency Liaison
4. South Carolina Agency Observers
Erin Bartlett, Henry Porter, Leslie Coolidge
5. Public Attendees: None.

Background documents:

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

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. PowerPoint for Teleconference
3. CC Draft Catalog of State Actions
4. CC State Actions Descriptions

Discussion items and key issues:

This was the first 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. Colburn gave an overview of the purpose and key outcomes of the CECAC process. The CECAC's final report will be completed and delivered to the Governor by June 2008.
 - Colburn discussed the roles and responsibilities of the CECAC and the TWGs. The CECAC process was convened by Governor Sanford through Executive Order 2007-

04. Senator John Courson is the Chair of the CECAC and Representative Ben Hagood is the Vice Chair. The CECAC will make recommendations to Governor and is responsible for the development of the Climate Action Plan (e.g., the policy options to be included in the final plan).

- The roles of the Technical Work Groups (TWGs) are to provide informal technical and analytical guidance to the CECAC in the form of recommendations and to support the development and analysis of policy options. Specifically, the TWGs are responsible for identifying and prioritizing policy options (also referred to as state actions) for further development and analysis subject to approval by the CECAC. For the priority policy options approved by the CECAC, TWGs will develop design characteristics of each option for CECAC for review, comment, and ultimately approval by the end of the process.
- Colburn gave an overview of the five TWGs; Energy Supply (ES), residential, commercial, and industrial fuel use (RCI), Transportation and Land Use (TLU), Agriculture, Forestry and Waste Management (AFW), and Cross-Cutting Issues (CC). Whereas most TWGs are focused on particular options within specific sectors (e.g., energy; RCI fuel use; transportation and land use; agriculture, forestry, and waste), the CC TWG will discuss and develop recommendations that cut across all sectors. The CC TWG will be examining the options provided in the draft “catalog” for this meeting along with any additional options that the TWG or the CECAC wish to add to the catalog. Colburn also provided an overview of the timing for TWG meetings relative to CECAC meetings, and the work products to be developed by the CC TWG. Opportunities for public input are provided throughout the process.
- Ground rules were also discussed. The CECAC and TWG processes are stepwise. Therefore, it is important that members attend all meetings, share equal footing, stay current with information, do not backslide, and make objective contributions. Additionally, TWG members should not claim to represent the CECAC or TWGs in the media or other public venues.
- The 10-step CCS Work Plan was also described. The TWG is currently working on the first 2 steps:
 - Review of preliminary draft South Carolina inventory and forecast (I&F) of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
 - Identify a full range of potential policy options that could comprise state actions
- Each TWG follows a similar policy design template developed by CCS. For the CC TWG, CCS anticipates providing sample text for each of the options for the TWG to use as a starting point for developing its straw proposals. Colburn covered the elements of the template. For each option, the TWG will develop recommendations on the timing, goals, coverage, related state policies and programs in place, implementation mechanisms, feasibility issues, etc. Colburn also covered the contents of the final report noting that the policy options developed by the TWG and approved by the CECAC will be included directly in the final report.

- A question was asked about the timing for developing statewide GHG reduction goals or targets. Colburn noted that states have used either a “top-down” or a “bottom-up” approach for setting goals. In the “top-down” approach, a goal or target is typically set by the Governor. Under the “bottom-up” approach, officials evaluate what they believe can be achieved after the stakeholder group’s policy options are quantified. Governor Sanford did not specify goals or targets in Executive Order 2007-04 that established the CECAC. Thus, we will need to await the results of quantification of the policy options that the CECAC approves.

3. Catalog of Potential GHG Policy Options

- Colburn introduced the catalog of policy options (Catalog of State Actions) posted on the website for today’s call. He also pointed the TWG members to a second posted document containing brief descriptions of each policy option. Colburn noted that many of the policy options in the catalog originated from options considered in other states. He then went through the catalog of policy options, providing a brief summary of each option.
- Colburn asked TWG members to review the CC catalog in advance of the next TWG call and to be ready to discuss policy options that might be missing from the catalog, as well as recent state actions that should be noted in the catalog. The TWG should consider all possible options as it works to expand the catalog including, for example, all GHGs; sectors; potential implementation mechanisms; state, multi-state, and regional actions; and short and long-term actions.
- A question was asked about coordination with other TWGs on the identification and development of policy options. CCS’ facilitators will assist with coordinating work on options that may overlap with more than one TWG and will determine the appropriate TWG for addressing the option. If the option is approved by the CECAC for quantification, it would be moved to one of the sector-specific TWGs for quantification. The CC TWG will be able to monitor progress in the development and quantification of the option by the other TWG.
- Clarification was requested on the information presented in the notes column of the catalog to identify options already being implemented or considered in South Carolina. CCS noted that prior to this first CC TWG meeting, South Carolina state agencies helped identify options for the catalog. The resulting catalog includes policy options considered by other states since the previous catalog. Notes associated with these options are included in the catalog for today’s call. CCS will work with agency staff to more clearly identify specific South Carolina actions versus notes that simply provide examples of what the policy option might include.

4. South Carolina Draft GHG Emissions Inventory and Forecast (I&F)

Randy Strait provided an overview of the draft GHG I&F, noting that this work is helpful for assessing GHG emissions and trends, but it is not intended to be a compliance baseline. The sector-specific TWGs will be responsible for reviewing the I&F and identifying opportunities for improving it. The CC TWG members are welcome to provide comments on the I&F that will be given to the sector-specific TWGs for consideration. Strait noted the following points:

- When preparing the I&F, CCS placed an emphasis on transparency, consistency, and significance.
- Preference was given to South Carolina data. If South Carolina data were not available, regional or national data were used as the starting point for developing estimates for South Carolina.
- For the electricity supply sector, emissions were estimated on a production- and a consumption-basis. The production-based method account for emissions associated with electricity generating facilities within South Carolina's borders. The consumption-based method includes the production-based emissions plus emissions associated with imports and exports of electricity from and to other states. The consumption-based emissions are used to inform the development of electricity supply-side and demand-side policy options. South Carolina is a net exporter of electricity; thus, its production-based emissions are higher than its consumption-based emissions. The consumption-based method was not applied to other sectors primarily because of the lack of readily available data needed to perform the estimates.
- The I&F covers the six GHGs considered by the US EPA and UNFCCC: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride.

5. Questions and Comments

- The question was asked if the TWG members minded sharing their phone and e-mail addresses with each other? CCS will send an e-mail to the CC TWG members to raise this question.
- A TWG member asked about the feasibility of having frequent face-to-face meetings. CCS noted that this can be done at critical points in the process (e.g., development of the design of policy options) if necessary; however, budget constraints limit the number of on-site, face-to-face meetings that can be held.

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

7. Announcements: None.

Next steps and agreements:

1. The next CC TWG call (#2) will be **Wednesday, June 13, from 9:30 - 11:00 AM**. CCS will notify the full TWG of the date and time for call #2 and send a reminder out several days before the call.
2. TWG members should review the Catalog of State Actions before the next call and be prepared to discuss additions and revisions to the catalog on the next call. TWG members should e-mail comments/questions to the CCS facilitators who will organize the comments for discussion during Call #2.