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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 #4, August 8, 2007, 11:00 AM – 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
- Cary Chamblee – Legislative and Government Consultant for South Carolina Wildlife Federation and Sierra Club
- Bob Giangorgi – Vice President, Priority Metrics Group
- Gene Hogan (for Danny Verdin) – SC Senate
- Bob King – Deputy Commissioner, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
- Edwin Lesley – President, Business Development Corporation of South Carolina
- Russell Ott – South Carolina Farm Bureau
- Bob Perry (for John Frampton) – Wildlife Biologist, Environmental Programs Section, DNR
- Bob Scott – President, South Carolina Forestry Association
- Johnny Williamson – CEO, South Carolina Soya, LLC.

2. Center for Climate Strategies (CCS) Staff:

- Steve Roe – Lead facilitator
- Brad Strobe

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

- Michael Juras – SCDHEC; Agency Liaison

4. South Carolina Agency Observers

- Leslie Coolidge

5. Public Attendees:

6. Technical Work Group Members not attending:

- Larry Boyleston – Director, Business and Government Relations, South Carolina Dept. of Agriculture
- Scott Fennell – Carolina Waste
- Chris Fisher – Fisher Recycling
- Richard Horton – Sustainable Energy Manager, South Carolina Energy Office
- Joe James – CEO, Corporation for Economic Opportunity
- 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
- Daniel Tufford – University of South Carolina, Dept. of Biological Sciences
- Erica Westbrook – Natural Resources Conservation Service

Background documents:

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

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. Summary of Call #3
3. PowerPoint for Teleconference.
4. AFW Draft Catalog of State Actions.
5. AFW State Actions Descriptions.
6. Policy Option Template
7. AFW Ballot Results
8. Agriculture, Forestry & Waste Management Appendices for the SC GHG Inventory & Forecast (I&F).

Discussion items and key issues:

This was the third meeting/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. This was an in-person meeting of the AFW TWG. Members convened either in-person at the University of South Carolina’s West Quad or via teleconference.
2. CCS reviewed the draft summary of Call #3 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 meeting were to review the results of the balloting process that identified this group’s initial priorities for analysis and continue its discussion of the draft GHG emissions I&F.
4. CCS asked the TWG to bring up the AFW Ballot Results that was posted online at http://www.scclimatechange.us/Agriculture_Forestry.cfm prior to this call. Before the Results were discussed and the final priority recommendations to the CECAC were finalized, there was an in-depth discussion between CCS and the TWG members regarding the 10-step process. Specifically, a few members were concerned with the lack of scientific oversight of the process. CCS, DEHC, and another TWG member who was familiar with the process stated that the CECAC process is based upon input from industry stakeholders. The validity of the results of the process is dependent upon open

communication between the TWG, the State Agencies, and the facilitators (CCS). Although time and funding constraints prohibit an extensive scientific review of the final recommendations, CECAC and TWG members are provided ample opportunity to provide input and assure that CCS is using the most up-to-date research to complete the analysis of the recommended policy options. CCS suggested that this TWG member (and any TWG members sharing this concern) relate this recommendation at the next CECAC meeting. After this discussion, the AFW Ballot Results document was addressed.¹

- a. AFW-1: It was noted by a TWG member that the ballot did not include an option that was added late to the catalog; “Install Digesters and Turbines or Engines at Wastewater Treatment Plants.” CCS apologized for this oversight and added that this technology-based measure fits in well with the Energy Efficiency Improvements recommended by AFW-1. The implementation of AFW-1 will likely rely on the installation of advanced digesters and turbines at WWTPs.
- b. AFW-2: An alternative title was proposed; “Recycling and Integrated Waste Management.” However, the TWG chose to recommend this option as a high priority to the CECAC under its current title, adding “Source Reduction Strategies” to the consolidated list of options.
- c. AFW-3: No changes were proposed for this option.
- d. AFW-4: Many options regarding the dissolution of this large, consolidated option were discussed. However - citing that Soil Carbon Management is connotes a highly comprehensive approach including nutrient management, grazing, land preservation, and cultivation - the TWG elected to recommend AFW-4 to the CECAC in its current state.
- e. AFW-5: No comments or changes were offered.
- f. AFW-6: No comments or changes were offered.
- g. AFW-7: A TWG member raised a concern that this option may create property rights issues, as this option may place restrictions on the use of currently forested lands. A suggested change was to change the title option to read; “reduced rate of clearing” in order to acknowledge that some growth is necessary and the net effect is the chief concern. Another TWG member suggested that 7.2 – Urban Forestry be included as a part of AFW-7. Ensuing discussion fleshed out the conclusion that AFW-7 currently is focused more on conservation of forested land cover.
- h. AFW-8: The issue of policy period was raised regarding AFW-8. A TWG member suggested that this option be analyzed based on a one-time cost, with benefits existing in perpetuity. However, it was noted that the initial investment in preservation (i.e., easements) will be discounted and the cumulative reductions will be assessed over the time of the policy period, in order to tailor the analysis to the process and the directives of the CECAC. There was a request to change the

¹ Note that the option numbers are based upon the AFW Ballot Results document. After this meeting, the order of options will be changed with agriculture options coming first, followed by the forestry and waste management options.

title of AFW-8 to indicate that the preservation of open space and agricultural land should occur on productive lands. The proposal, accepted by the group, was to change the titles of AFW-7 to “Reduced Rate of Clearing and Conversion to Nonforest Cover” and AFW-8 to “Conservation of Open Space and Working Agricultural Lands.”

- i. AFW-9: CCS noted the need to insert a title for this priority option that gives the TWG flexibility to manage the end-of-use emissions from the waste sector. A suggested title was “Waste Energy Reclamation.” This proposed title was accepted by the TWG.
 - j. A TWG member requested some time to discuss other options that may have been low or medium priority. Upon agreement from CCS, the TWG suggested that AFW-7.3 (Afforestation/Reforestation) be included as a part of another option priority (i.e., AFW-6). It was noted that these options are different enough to warrant the disclusion of AFW-7.3. It was suggested by another TWG member that an afforestation/reforestation program could either be a part of the forest management option or a mechanism by which AFW-6 is implemented. CCS felt that there was enough interest from the TWG to include AFW 7.3 as a stand-alone priority, or consolidate it with another option. The consensus amongst the TWG was to consolidate 7.3 with 7.4 under the AFW-6 priority. Hearing no further objections, CCS moved onto the next item of business.
5. The next step for the TWG is to develop straw proposals, following the presentation of the previously discussed priorities to the CECAC. The straw proposals include the mitigation option description and the mitigation option design. The mitigation option design includes the goals, timing, coverage of parties, and other considerations for the option. These straw proposals will be crafted by volunteers from within the TWG. CCS is reluctant to put language into these proposals. Rather, it is preferred that the TWG be directly involved in the drafting of the straw proposals.
 6. CCS asked that TWG members volunteer for 2-3 options. Members may volunteer by sending an e-mail to Brad Strobe (brad.strobe@pechan.com), noting the options they would like to volunteer for, as well as any options they would be interested in leading. This volunteer list will be finalized during the next meeting.
 7. CCS moved onto the next item in the agenda; the Draft Inventory and Forecast. CCS presented the overall summary chart and the agriculture, forestry, and waste management summary charts. A question was raised regarding the preparatory process. CCS displayed, through prepared slides, the process of developing the Inventory and Forecast. CCS requests any information regarding updates to data, expected best practices, or other projections.
 8. A question was raised regarding the impact of recycling rates on emissions in the Waste Management sector. The emissions from business-as-usual (BAU) recycling is captured in the I&F. However, the life-cycle impacts of BAU recycling is not assessed in the I&F.
 9. Input from the public was solicited. There were no members of the public present.

Next steps and agreements:

1. The date for the next CECAC meeting is August 22, 2007 at 1PM. The next meeting of the AFW TWG will be held via teleconference on September 5, 2007 from 2:00PM to 4:00PM. **Note change from schedule posted on website**
2. TWG Members are asked to volunteer to assist in the development of the Straw Proposals. Members should volunteer for specific options by sending an e-mail to Brad Strode or Steve Roe stating their preferences.
3. CCS thanks all members who were in attendance at this extended meeting, especially those who were able to attend in person.