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**MEETING SUMMARY
MICHIGAN CLIMATE ACTION COUNCIL**

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

Call #5, May 1, 2008, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM EDT

Attendance:

1. Technical Working Group members:
Jeff Andresen, Jim Byrum, Ken Dahlberg, Dana Kirk, Andrew Kok, Ben Kudwa, Doug Parks, Lisa Scramlin, Michael Toth-Purcell, Carrie Vollmer-Sanders, Anne Woiwode
2. Center for Climate Strategies (CCS) staff:
Steve Roe, Rachel Anderson
3. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality:
Terri Novak, Jim Ostrowski, Duane Roskoskey
4. State Agency Participants:
Liesl Clark, Donna LaCourt, Steve Shine, Tom Stanton, Larry Pedersen, Gordon Wenk
5. Public Attendees: Ken Evans

Background documents:

(all posted at <http://www.miclimatechange.us/AFW.cfm>)

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. PowerPoint for Teleconference
3. Catalog Balloting Results
4. Draft Michigan AFW Options Description
5. Draft Michigan AFW Catalog
6. Summary of Call #3

Discussion items and key issues:

1. Steve Roe called the meeting to order, Rachel Anderson completed the roll call, and Steve reviewed the agenda and plans for the call.

2. CCS reviewed today's agenda, which is to review the results of the MCAC meeting from April 25th, review policy option template, and review the Inventory and Forecast (I&F).
3. CCS reviewed the Call #4 minutes and provided an opportunity for TWG members to provide feedback. The last call was spent reviewing balloting results and preparing options for the MCAC meeting. Lisa Scramlin noted she was on the call but was a few minutes late so she will be added to the attendance list. No additional revisions or comments were offered by TWG members, so the summary was accepted without additional changes.
4. CCS reviewed the results of the April 25th meeting of the Michigan Climate Action Council (MCAC). Those options that were added are included in bold text. Under AFW-2, the 11.6 Algae and Bio-Oils options was added. Under AFW-7, which is an over-arching agricultural practices option, the council added 5.1 Increase On-Farm Energy Efficiency and 5.3 Programs to Support Local Farming/Buy Local. They added AFW-10, the Landfill Methane Energy Program. The option description of 10.2 needs to be revised to make it clearer (the option should refer to any methods for greater recovery and use of landfill methane or potentially control of landfill methane where beneficial use is not economical. Any members that were at the MCAC were asked to provide any information on the MCAC choices: One member said that the council wanted landfill gas capture and utilization explicitly included in the options.
5. CCS asked if the group wanted to keep option 5.3 on local food as part of AFW-7, or if it needs to be looked at on its own. A member noted that a Governor's Food Policy Council is working on local food policy similar to 5.3. It might not be necessary to duplicate their work. Several members suggested that the option is fine as part as AFW-7 and doesn't need to be broken out as a separate option. CCS reviewed how this option has been approached in other states in terms of trying to quantify GHG benefits. It is simpler to quantify for fresh fruits/vegs and meat/poultry displacing imported products, but more difficult to get at GHG benefits for the rest of the food industry products such as packaged and processed foods (where more substantial GHG benefits might be realized). One member noted that he is on the Food Policy Council and noted that it does not look at GHG or energy issues.
6. In the Stepwise planning process, we are now working on developing straw policy design proposals. The next step is to identify TWG volunteers who are willing to work on each proposal and someone to lead each group of volunteers. These volunteers will be crafting straw proposals that will be compiled and sent to the MCAC for review. One member asked if they can provide others to volunteer in their stead. CCS noted that the group is free to reach out for technical expertise, but that we won't be adding members to the process at this point. At this point, we have not gotten approval from DEQ to add new members and these new members would be disadvantaged by not having been through the process with the group. Another member suggested the options be lumped into categories, so efforts could be streamlined since many members want to be involved in crafting several straw

- proposals. Several members expressed support of lumping the options into categories and discussed the most logical way to do this.
7. The members decided the options would be lumped in the following way:
 - a. Energy production (AFW-1, AFW-2, AFW-3, AFW-10) – Tom Stanton (lead), Doug Parks, Anne Woidode, Ken Dahlberg, Michael Toth-Purcell, Michelle Crook, Tim Unseld, Liesl Clark, Lisa Scramlin, Dana Kirk, Donna Lacourt, Jim Byrum, Jim Ostrowski, Brian Warner (nominated *in absentia*);
 - b. Farming and land use (AFW-5, AFW-7) – Jim Byrum (lead), Jeff Andresen, Ken Dahlberg, Steve Shine, Ben Kudwa, Carrie Vollmer-Sanders, Dana Kirk, Lisa Scramlin, Gordon Wenk;
 - c. Forestry and Forestry/Ag Land Protection (AFW-6, AFW-8) – Donna LaCourt (lead), Steve Shine, Carrie Vollmer-Sanders, Anne Woiwode, Ken Dahlberg, Gordon Wenk (note: Rich Harlow – Dept of Agriculture would be a good resource);
 - d. Materials and Waste Management (AFW-4, AFW-9) – Duane Roskoskey (lead), Andrew Kok, Lisa Scramlin, Carrie Vollmer-Sanders, Michael Toth-Purcell.
 8. CCS reviewed the policy option template – the straw proposals will have a policy description and policy design with specific goals and dates, so that they can be quantified. Each straw proposal can also include the parties expected to be involved (state agencies, industry groups, private parties, academia, other organizations). Related policies and programs will first be drawn from the policy descriptions document. Additional benefits and costs as well as feasibility issues will be delineated later in the process.
 9. We'd like to have each sub-committee pull together a draft straw proposal for each option before the next TWG call. Please send it to Rachel (Rachel.anderson@pechan.com) by May 22nd.
 10. CCS began reviewing the GHG inventory and forecasts (I&F) for the AFW sectors and the data sources that went into it.
 - a. Soil carbon (cultivation practices) are derived from a single estimate made for the state's soils for 1997. That number is expected to be updated, but until it is, we have used that as an estimate for each year of the I&F.
 - b. Livestock – future poultry emissions are expected to be flat based on estimates from the poultry trade. Other livestock expect a logarithmic forecast. Cultivation practices – go to NRCS and private sector. Any data on crops or livestock – please send to Rachel. Please send any other data sources that we can use to improve the forecast.
 - c. Waste – emissions for solid waste landfilling are divided by type of landfill controls: uncontrolled, flared, and landfill-gas-to-energy (LFGTE). The assumptions for LFGTE and flared sites are that 75% of methane emissions are collected and combusted.

- d. Forestry – even excluding forest soil carbon there is a “roller-coaster” in the carbon flux estimates over the period of analysis. Larry Pedersen, MIDNR noted the totals currently included in the inventory are just showing the “flux” not the actual sequestration. There was a 6% increase in forest land between 1980-1993. The 2004-2005 flux is most troubling. Carrying estimates out to more than three significant figures connotes a level of certainty that isn’t there (CCS will fix). Larry is working on data sources and will be sending feedback soon. CCS will incorporate edits to the appendix based on this input.

- 11. The next AFW TWG call is scheduled for Thursday, May 29th from 1-3 PM.
- 12. Public input: Ken Evans – Brian Warner wasn’t on the line today and would likely want to be included in the energy sub-committee. Rachel will send out a list of the sub-groups to all members, including those that weren’t on today’s call, so that they can have an opportunity to join a subgroup.

Next steps and agreements:

- 1. The next TWG meeting will be held on Thursday, May 29th, from 1:00 - 3:00 pm. Please RSVP to Terri Novak novaktl@michigan.gov 517.930.3170, if you will be attending in person at the DEQ Constitution Hall conference room.
- 2. Dates for upcoming TWG conference calls:
 - a. May 29th, 1-3 PM
 - b. June 26th, 1-3 PM
 - c. August 7th, 1-3 PM
 - d. September 25th, 1-3 PM
 - e. October 30th, 1-3 PM.