Washington Climate Change Challenge
Draft Climate Advisory Team (CAT) Ground Rules

1. Participants will not debate the science of climate change, the goals established in Executive Order 07-02, or the timeline, but will instead provide leadership and a vision for how Washington will rise to the challenges and opportunities of addressing climate change.

2. Participants are expected to support the process and its concept fully and, through the group process, in good faith collaborate toward the goals of the CAT and work groups.

3. Participants are expected to act as equals during the process to ensure that all members have equal footing during deliberations and decisions.

4. Participants must attend meetings and stay current with information provided to the group and the decisions of the group. If an alternate is needed, the CAT member must inform the CAT co-chairs before the meeting. It is expected that alternates will not be routinely utilized. Any alternate who does participate should be current with information developed by the process and able to make decisions.

5. Participants are asked not to reconsider decisions already made in the stepwise process. Once the CAT reaches a milestone by consensus or vote, it moves to the next step. Final votes by the CAT include support at three levels, including: Unanimous consent (no objection), Super majority (four objections or less), and Majority (less than half object).

6. Each participant should speak only about their position and refrain from characterizing the views of others when making CAT decisions. Each CAT member must be able to vote or otherwise take a position at the meetings.

7. When speaking about the process with the media or in other public settings, each CAT member must make clear they are representing only themselves.

8. Participants are expected to provide objective, fact-based comments and alternatives during CAT and work group discussions, and must refrain from personal criticisms.

9. Ex-officio members designated by the CAT co-chairs are accorded rights of full participation except voting privileges. However, the opinion of ex-officio members on recommendations will be highly valued and given full consideration by the CAT before any vote is taken.