

MEETING SUMMARY
Washington Climate Advisory Team (CAT)
Forestry Technical Work Group (F TWG)
Call #7, October 24, 2007, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Attendance:

1. Technical Working Group members: Craig Partridge (for Doug Sutherland), Anthony Chavez (for Sara Kendall), Gina Smith (for John Floberg), Rick Gustafson, Becky Kelley, Llewellyn Matthews, Heath Packard, Denise Pranger, Kevin Raymond, Cindy Mitchell (for Court Stanley), Steve McConnell (for Mary Verner)
2. Facilitation team (Center for Climate Strategies):
Katie Bickel
Jen Jenkins
Carrie Lee
3. Washington State Agency (ECY/CTED) liaison and attendees:
Gail Sandlin (for Steve Bernath)

Background documents:

(all posted at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/cat_twg_forest.htm)

1. Agenda
2. PowerPoint presentation (including agenda) for meeting
3. Draft Priority Options Description
4. Summary of F TWG Call #6

Discussion items and key issues:

1. The meeting started with a roll call of participants and a presentation of the agenda for the meeting.
2. The TWG had no comments on the Call #6 Meeting Summary, and the Summary was accepted.
3. CCS provided an update on the October 4 CAT meeting. All of the Forestry TWG policy options will be presented to the CAT for their review and affirmation at the Nov 15-16 meeting. Following the Nov 15-16 there will only be one additional TWG conference call before the Dec 4-5 CAT meeting for the TWG to respond and revise the policy options based on CAT feedback. TWG member contributions to the WA CAT process are expected to be completed by the Dec 4-5 CAT meeting.
4. CCS provided an update on revisions to the WA Inventory and Forecast. A revised version of the Forestry Inventory and Forecast, based on TWG member discussion and analysis by

CCS, has been sent to TWG members for their review and feedback is requested by October 30. TWG members expressed that revisions had appropriately represented the range of uncertainty in estimates available and reflected TWG member discussion of the issue during earlier conference calls. Additionally CCS updated TWG members on refinements to the Energy Supply Inventory and Forecast estimates based on revisions to the 1990 load-based emissions approach.

5. CCS led a discussion of the Forestry policy options to be reviewed by the CAT at the Nov 15-16 meeting. TWG members reviewed and provided feedback on input draft text provided by TWG member volunteer groups and quantification results provided by the CCS.

Discussion points included

F-1:

- Discussion among TWG members regarding the most appropriate means of incorporating analysis of this policy option from WA DNR.
- TWG members agreed that the following refinements should be made to the analysis of this option
 - Consideration of including the avoided cost of fighting forest fires.
 - Addition of text that clarifies the thinning response of forest stands after forest fire fuel treatments.
 - Clarification of estimates of net carbon benefit of forest fuel treatments based on net carbon effect of forest fire.
- TWG member agreement that the implementation mechanism text should be strengthened to emphasize the need for enhanced coordination with federal and tribal forestland management. Management of tribal lands can serve as an example for effective management. Coordination with federal agencies managing federal forestlands in Washington is considered a primary barrier to implementation of this policy option.

F-2:

- TWG members expressed concern that SEPA is not an appropriate means for implementing this policy option. TWG members volunteered to clarify and revise implementation mechanism text regarding SEPA.
- TWG member suggestion to clarify the link between this option and RCI-9.
- TWG member suggestion to clarify the assumption regarding harvested wood products and carbon storage.
- TWG member agreement that quantification estimates should be revised to reflect forestland conversion rates based on UW study.

F-3:

- TWG members discussed text revisions regarding the establishment of an appropriate baseline.
- TWG members discussed revisions to mitigation option goal text regarding the development of accounting protocols and a TWG member volunteered to submit revised text to CCS.

F-3 and F-4:

- CCS provided an overview of quantification of these policy options highlighting that data sources for estimates of acreage available in Washington for afforestation and reforestation are still needed, that F-3 and F-4 will be quantified jointly, and that cost estimates for both will be provided to the TWG in preparation for the next TWG call on Nov. 6.

F-5:

- TWG members expressed disagreement concerning the use of in state wood in LEED certified buildings.

F-8:

- CCS highlighted the need to coordinate with the RCI TWG regarding the reduction in building energy use as a result of street tree heating and cooling effects.
- TWG members suggested that text explicitly state that this option does not intend to increase wildfire risk in fire prone communities.

F-6:

- TWG members agreed to revise goal statement in terms of technical versus economic potential for CHP at forest product facilities.
- TWG members suggested that quantification methodology of this option be clarified and incorporate text that explicitly states that biomass supply is not being double counted between F-6 and F-7.
- TWG members suggested that estimates of current fuel use for heat and steam in forest product facilities be revised.

F-7:

- TWG members suggested revising mitigation option description text to emphasize the idea of biorefinery facilities versus stand alone biofuels facilities.
- TWG members agreed that implementation mechanism text should emphasize the need for public and private partnerships to explore the feasibility of establishing biorefinery/biofuels technology in Washington.
- TWG members agreed on the joint goal statement for AW-2 and F-7 to increase utilization of total waste biomass to 3 million tons per year. TWG members agreed that half of the waste biomass (1.5 million tons) could be supplied from forest biomass sources available in Washington.

6. TWG members were in agreement to set a time for an additional TWG call prior to the Nov. 15-16 CAT meeting, in order to provide the TWG with the opportunity to review quantification estimates for all of the remaining F policy options.

Next steps and agreements:

1. TWG members will provide text for specific sections in the options document. The facilitation team will revise the F policy options document reflecting discussions during the TWG meeting and refined/additional quantification estimates for remaining F policy options. The revised document will be sent to TWG members for their review prior to the next TWG conference call on Nov. 6.
2. TWG members are asked to submit additional draft input text for remaining sections of policy option templates by October 31.

Next meeting:

The next CAT meeting is set for Thursday-Friday, November 15-16 in Olympia.

The next F TWG teleconference is scheduled for Tuesday, November 6, from 10:00 AM –12:00 PM.