

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**Washington Climate Advisory Team (CAT)**

**Forestry Technical Work Group (F TWG)**

Call #9, November 19, 2007, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

**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, Denise Pranger, and Court Stanley
2. Facilitation team (Center for Climate Strategies):  
Katie Bickel  
Carrie Lee
3. Washington State Agency (ECY/CTED) liaison and attendees:  
Steve Bernath

**Background documents:**

(all posted at [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/cat\\_twg\\_forest.htm](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 #8

**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 #8 Meeting Summary, and the Summary was approved.
3. CCS provided an update of the recent CAT meeting on Nov. 15-16 in Olympia, WA. CCS noted that overall CAT members were in support of the Forestry options and provided feedback regarding specific options. All Forestry TWG policy options were affirmed by the CAT. At the meeting, CAT members were given an update on the status of state involvement in the WCI process, the timeline for the development of the final report following the Dec. 4-5 CAT meeting, and a discussion by DOE/CTED on the potential to continue a process in 2008 to further develop a climate plan. It is the task of the TWG to complete text for all of the sections of each policy option prior to the next CAT meeting on Dec. 4-5.
4. CCS requests that all TWG members submit their final input on the policy options document by Tuesday November 27.

5. CCS led a discussion of the feedback received at the Nov 15-16 CAT meeting on each of the Forestry policy options. CCS highlighted sections where input text from TWG members is needed. TWG members provided additional comments and feedback on individual options.

Discussion points included

F-2:

- A CAT member suggested combining the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> bullet under implementation mechanisms. CCS will make this revision.
- Denise Pranger volunteered to submit text for the Contribution to Other Goals section and include the biodiversity benefits under the Additional Benefits and Costs section.

F-3:

- TWG members were briefed on the CAT member discussion on the issue of an optimal forest management strategy for both carbon storage and timber harvest.
- A CAT member suggested revising implementation mechanism text regarding widening riparian buffers to exclude commercial forest lands. CCS will work with Craig Partridge to revise text to shift focus to restoration of riparian zones outside of commercial forest areas.
- A CAT member noted that an implementation mechanism should be included to recognize the infrastructure needs to accommodate larger trees if harvest rotations are lengthened. TWG members will prepare text for an implementation mechanism bullet to address this point.

F-4:

- CCS noted that text is needed for the Contribution to Other Goals Section, Additional Benefits/Costs, and Feasibility Issues.

F-5:

- CCS reviewed CAT member discussion focusing on the encouragement of wood as a building material, but the limited opportunity for market expansion in the residential sector and the structural limitations for commercial construction.

F-6:

- A CAT member asked for clarification on the TWG member decisions to base the policy option goal on the technical vs. the economic potential. CCS will work with TWG members to provide additional clarifying text.
- A CAT member asked if the sunset of tax incentives was included in the cost estimate calculations. A TWG member volunteered to look into whether there is additional information regarding this issue that could be included in the policy option text.

F-7:

- A CAT member asked if the challenges of ethanol distribution were considered by the TWG. CCS is following up with the Transportation TWG to see if this is addressed in

T-11. CCS will add text that emphasizes that this policy option focuses on the use of in-state feedstocks for in-state fuel needs.

- TWG members requested that CCS clarify the key assumptions text of the quantification analysis. A TWG member volunteered to provide text highlighting the assumptions and uncertainties in cellulosic ethanol conversion and emission factors especially that values are not based specifically on the use of forest biomass feedstocks.
- A TWG member volunteered to provide additional information regarding related policies/programs in place.
- A TWG member requested that the unit notation MMgal be clarified and suggested limiting the values in tables to significant figures. CCS will make these revisions.

F-8:

- CCS noted that there was strong support for this option at the CAT level.

F-1:

- CAT members expressed interest in having the avoided emissions of forest fires quantified. CCS presented to the TWG a suggested approach to quantification based on a study for WA State based on research at UW. A TWG member highlighted a concern in the approach regarding large cohort trees. CCS will work with the TWG member to revise the quantification of this option based on this feedback.
- A CAT member highlighted the concern about accessibility of forest lands treated in this policy option. CCS will add text in the Feasibility Issues section addressing this concern.

### **Next steps and agreements:**

1. CCS will revise the Forestry policy options document based on CAT member feedback at the Nov. 15-16 CAT meeting and TWG member input during this call in preparation for the upcoming CAT meeting on Dec. 4-5.
2. TWG members will provide CCS will input text for remaining sections of policy options and any additional feedback by Tuesday November 27<sup>th</sup>.
3. CCS will prepare and submit the revised F POD to the CAT for their review at the Dec. 4-5 CAT meeting.

### **Next meeting:**

The next CAT meeting is set for Tuesday- Wednesday, December 4-5 in Seattle.

There are no additional F TWG teleconferences scheduled. Call #9 was the final F TWG meeting.