

MEETING SUMMARY
Washington Climate Advisory Team (CAT)
Residential, Commercial and Industrial Sector Technical Work Group (RCI TWG)
Call #8, November 19, 2007, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Attendance:

1. Technical Working Group members:
 - Aaron Adelstein King and Snohomish Master Builders
 - Anthony Chavez Weyerhaeuser
 - Amanda Eichel City of Seattle
 - Kim Drury NW Energy Coalition

2. Facilitation team (Center for Climate Strategies):
 - David Von Hippel
 - Michael Lazarus
 - Carrie Lee

3. Washington State Agency (ECY/CTED) liaison and attendees:
 - Not present

Background documents:

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

1. Agenda
2. PowerPoint presentation (including agenda) for meeting
3. Draft Priority Options Description
4. Summary of RCI Call #7

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 facilitation team asked for TWG comments on the Summary of TWG Call #7, as posted on the RCI web page. The TWG had no comments on the Summary, and the Summary was accepted.
3. The facilitation team provided an overview of the Nov. 15-16 CAT meeting. Based on strong interest by the CAT to move through the policy options quickly and leave more time for discussion of broader issues, the agenda was shifted and the RCI policy options were reviewed on Thursday instead of Friday. There was a general recognition that this process and work on the RCI policy options will not end with the CAT meeting in January. DOE/CTED have discussed the concept of reconvening the CAT, in some form, following the legislative session to continue work to move these policy options forward and coordinate with the WCI process. The next step for the TWGs is to finalize the policy options document by completing all sections of each policy option.

4. A TWG member suggested that the recent publication of the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report be highlighted at the next CAT meeting to emphasize the urgent need for emission reductions.
5. The facilitation team led a discussion of CAT feedback on the remaining RCI policy options (RCI-3, RCI-4, RCI-9, RCI-10, and RCI-11), seeking RCI TWG input on key points. All of the options were affirmed by the CAT at its November 15-16 meeting.

Discussion points included:

RCI-3:

- The facilitation team explained that revisions to cost estimates for this and several other RCI options had been prepared using new avoided electricity cost estimates that had been updated based on discussion in the ES TWG.

RCI-4:

- There was no CAT member feedback specific to RCI-4.

RCI-5:

- TWG members were in agreement to move the smart meter pilot program description to the “implementation mechanisms” section of the option text, but continue to use it as a basis for the quantification of the option.
- The facilitation team provided clarification to TWG members that this policy option does not specify that decoupling is restricted to a specific sector residential, commercial, or industrial. The tiered-rates element of this policy option, however, does refer only to residential customers.

RCI-8:

- The facilitation team led a discussion among TWG members clarifying the coordination between the RCI TWG and DOE efforts to assemble an overall list of initiatives for education program and design.

RCI-9:

- A CAT member had asked for clarification of the 3,000 VMT threshold included in this policy option. The facilitation team will find the appropriate reference for this value.
- A CAT member had questioned the intent of the TWG regarding GHG reductions in projects reviewed through the SEPA process. TWG members were in agreement to clarify text to indicate that GHG reductions should be made where possible.
- CAT members had suggested revising text to state the preference for on-site over off-site mitigation by including the text “all other consideration being equal”. TWG members suggested wording changes to this section.
- CAT members had suggested that the 4th bullet under implementation mechanisms regarding GMA was not relevant for RCI-9. TWG members agreed with the suggestion to move the bullet to RCI-3.

RCI-10:

- The facilitation team provided an overview of the quantification of this option, which was not reviewed in detail during the last TWG teleconference call due to limited time.
- A CAT member had noted that the “implementation mechanisms” section of this option tasks CTED/DOE with a number of additional responsibilities, and suggested that it be highlighted that CTED/DOE will need additional resources to fulfill these expanded roles. The facilitation team revised text to incorporate this suggestion, and these revisions were reviewed by the TWG.
- The facilitation team noted the inclusion in the policy option of a reference to data from the Appliance Standards Awareness Project regarding consideration and adoption of more stringent or additional appliance standards by States.

RCI-11:

- The facilitation team provided an overview of the quantification of this option, which was not reviewed in detail during the last TWG teleconference due to limited time.
- A CAT member had noted that SF₆ was an essential material for electrical transmission and distribution systems, and the facilitation team had clarified the option text to indicate that this policy option focuses on reducing leakage and increasing recycling of SF₆. TWG members suggested including a statement that acknowledges current electrical utility programs to reduce SF₆ leakage.
- A CAT member had noted that a barrier to using alternative, lower-CO₂ cement blends was not so much based on WA DOT and GSA standards, as both agencies do allow the use of these products, but rather the lack of experience of individual supervising engineers and local agencies with the new materials. TWG members concurred, and the facilitation team will revise the text to reflect that the state should encourage the use of these products.

Next steps and agreements:

1. The facilitation team will revise the RCI policy options document reflecting discussions during the TWG meeting.
2. TWG members are asked to submit additional draft input text for remaining sections of policy option templates by close of business on Tuesday November 20th.
3. The facilitation team will incorporate TWG member feedback and send a revised version of the RCI policy options document to the full TWG for their review prior to submitting the document to the CAT for the December 4-5 CAT meeting.

Next meeting:

The next CAT meeting is set for Tuesday and Wednesday, December 4-5, in Seattle. There are no additional RCI TWG teleconferences scheduled. Call #8 was the final RCI TWG meeting.