

MEETING SUMMARY
Washington Climate Advisory Team (CAT)
Residential, Commercial and Industrial Sector Technical Work Group (RCI TWG)
Call #5, August 28, 2007, 9:30 am – 11:30 am

Attendance:

1. Technical Working Group members:
 - Aaron Adelstein King and Snohomish Master Builders
 - Ash Awad McKinstry Energy
 - Anthony Chavez Weyerhaeuser
 - Amanda Eichel City of Seattle
 - Bert Gregory Mithun Architects
 - Kim Drury NW Energy Coalition (for Danielle Dixon)
 - Mo McBroom WA Environmental Council
 - Greg Carrington Chelan PUD (for Rich Riazzi)
 - Mike Rousseau Alcoa

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

3. Washington State Agency (ECY/CTED) liaison and attendees:
 - Tim Stearns
 - Heida Adelsman

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 #4

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 #4, 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 update of the results of the August 7 CAT meeting, highlighting CAT affirmation of the RCI TWG list of high priority options and of the direction of the RCI-1 through RCI-4 straw proposals. The upcoming September 7th CAT conference call was discussed, and the facilitation team noted that the draft text for the remaining RCI policy options (RCI-5, RCI-8 through -11) will be reviewed by the CAT at that time.
4. The facilitation team reminded the TWG that RCI-6 and RCI-7 are being examined in collaboration with the ES TWG, with the ES TWG taking the lead. The facilitation team urged RCI TWG members to provide comments on these options to the facilitation team to be shared with the ES TWG.
5. The facilitation team led a discussion of RCI policy options 5, and 8-11. The primary goals of the discussion were to generate feedback from TWG members on text generated by small volunteer groups of TWG members, to clarify the goals and timing of policy options, and to begin the process of distilling text for CAT review at the upcoming meeting (via conference call) on September 7th. The facilitation team also urged TWG members to begin to think about the next major step for the TWG in elaborating its recommended options, namely quantifying the GHG emissions and cost impacts of these options (where applicable). Following the upcoming CAT meeting the facilitation team will be looking to TWG members for their input on data sources and approaches for analysis.

Discussion points included:

- RCI-5: Clarification by TWG members and the facilitation team of policy option terms including “decoupling” and “rate structures”, and the state of current research on the effectiveness of smart meters. TWG members suggested that the differences in incentives for public vs. private utilities be clarified, current regulations and regulatory agencies now in place that define the parameters for this policy option be acknowledged, the importance of decoupling be emphasized, and the impact on low-income energy users be taken into consideration. Several TWG members volunteered to provide additional information on cost-benefit analysis of these measures to the TWG.
- RCI-8: TWG member volunteers provided an overview of progress on this option. TWG members acknowledged the challenge and the importance of carbon labeling, and the need to recognize current successful programs such as Energy Star. TWG members provided examples of where carbon labeling has been examined in other states, including OR and CT. TWG members discussed CAT member interest in a green builder certification program, highlighting both current programs of this type being developed and the importance of offering both individual- and company-level programs. TWG members suggested that RCI-8 should include efforts to enhance coordination among energy efficiency and climate education programs throughout the state.
- RCI-9: TWG member discussion emphasized the advantage of incorporating the GHG emissions impacts at the comprehensive planning stage (for example, in setting overall municipal or county development plans) rather than at the project

level to promote proactive vs. reactive planning, the need to provide local governments with sufficient funding and support to implement policies, and the need to collaborate with the Transportation TWG. DOE staff contacts informed the TWG of current efforts at DOE to review requirements for SEPA (WA State Environmental Policy Act) review of proposed projects, and the expectation that recommendations from the CAT process will be reflected in the review of SEPA requirements.

- RCI-10: TWG members emphasized the value of pushing ahead with state-level appliance/equipment/lighting energy efficiency and environmental performance policies even if regional or national level policy is more appropriate, as attention on states policies helps to spur policy development at the federal level. As well, the TWG highlighted the need for broad consumer education programs in this area. TWG members gave approval to the facilitation team to streamline text for this and other RCI options so as to make it ready for CAT review.
- RCI-11: TWG member volunteers reviewed input text emphasizing the importance of addressing non-energy emissions and highlighting the need for further research on specific opportunities to address GHG emissions from cement production and from road construction. TWG members will provide further sources of information regarding this option.
- RCI-1-4: The facilitation team reviewed CAT member feedback on RCI straw proposals.

Next steps and agreements:

1. The facilitation team will generate revised drafts of options RCI-5, 8-11 in the RCI Policy Options Document, reflecting the discussions during the TWG meeting, for review by CAT members. The draft document will be sent to TWG members for their review and input.
2. Following the September 7 CAT meeting, the CCS team will begin initial quantification of the policy option proposals affirmed by the CAT.

Next meeting:

The next CAT meeting is set for Friday, September 7, via conference call. TWG members may dial and listen in at 1-800-868-1837, Participant code - 384744#.

The next RCI TWG meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 21, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. If needed, based on TWG member schedules, this date/time may be revised.