

MEETING SUMMARY
WASHINGTON CLIMATE CHANGE
Human Health Preparation/Adaptation Workgroup

Meeting #3 - August 29, 2007 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Attendance:

1. Preparation/Adaptation Workgroup members:
Roger Rosenblatt, Harriet Ammann, , Ned Therien, Stephen Bezruchka, Ann Bikle, Richard Fenske, Anne Marie Kimball, Jane Koenig
2. Washington Department of Health Liaisons: Gregg Grunenfelder, Glen Patrick, Rachel McKinlay
3. Other Attendees: Catherine Karr, Sarah Safranek, Leilani St. Anna, Beth Jackson

Background Documents:

1. Meeting Agenda - posted at:
http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/cat_pawg_hh.htm

Discussion items and key issues:

1. Gregg Grunenfelder started the meeting with a roll call of those present and obtained acceptance of the group of the July 23rd meeting summary.
2. Gregg provided an update of the Preparation/Adaptation Working Group (PAWG) leads. Key highlights included:
 - The Education/Engagement workgroup to be headed by Barb MacGregor discussed at the July meeting has not yet started its work but the effort should be underway shortly.
 - The resource section to the Ecology website which was discussed at the July meeting should be organized and established in the next two weeks. Ecology has hired an intern (Anjali Adelman) to undertake this effort and Anjali is just coming on board.
 - A draft outline for our upcoming report was distributed via email in advance of the meeting and was discussed. Key comments on the outline from the group included:
 - a. Finalize the outline and get it out as soon as possible. The outline will be critical to organizing our work in the right manner.
 - b. Plain talk the outline as much as possible. Clear language outlining the desired sections of the report will drive us more towards the consistency we're looking from the various PAWG efforts.
 - c. Add a section to the Executive Summary, and to each PAWG report, that addresses 'overarching considerations', or 'critical considerations', or 'core principles'. A section like this is needed to articulate the common threads that will touch on the each of the different focus areas of our work.

- d. Provide a target range for the number of pages we're looking for from the PAWGs.
 - e. Provide a timeline for getting things done.
3. Roger provided an update on the HB 1303 Human Health workgroup efforts. The Climate Health Impact Teams (CHIT) have been formed and are moving forward. The climate projection data for the work of the CHIT will rely solely on that produced by the Climate Impact Group (CIG), as there is simply not enough time to meet the report deadline that would allow for any expansion on the CIG work already done.

Good coordination is also moving forward with the University library. A literature search database is being built to support the CHIT work, organized by our identified topic areas.

Some work may end up taking the form of case studies for the purpose of illustrating community specific impact and issues. Both Eastside and Westside locales would be considered.

4. Reports were made by each of the team leaders for the four focus areas. The team leaders discussed the status of their work and the approach being taken. The four topic areas were discussed by:
- a. Health effects of excessive heat – Richard Fenske
 - b. Cardio Pulmonary Health effects – Catherine Karr
 - c. Infection diseases – Ann Marie Kimball
 - d. Rising Sea Level/ Increasing storm intensity – Roger Rosenblatt
5. The group once again talked about the need to include the overarching issues of environmental justice and public engagement/education in our final report. Gregg Grunenfelder, Anne Bikle, and Stephen Bezruchka, will form a small subgroup to develop these issues further.
6. Gregg relayed to the group the interest that OFM has expressed in getting an early heads up on any potential budget implications associated with our work. Since this will be a supplemental budget year, any budget request will need to really reflect immediate and critical needs. The 09-11 biennial budget will be the more appropriate time to consider new policy directions and initiatives.

Next steps and agreements:

1. Our next meeting was scheduled for October 4th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We will work to schedule the meeting in the Kent or SeaTac area. The objective of that meeting will be to review the initial draft of our report.