

# Alaska Climate Change Strategy

Photo: J. Hurd

## **Cross-Cutting Issues Technical Work Group** **Alaska Mitigation Advisory Group** **Meeting #1: Conference Call Summary** **June 17, 2008**

### **Participants**

#### **TWG Participants**

Jeanne Carlson, Solid Waste Municipality of Anchorage and Green Star  
Lynda Giguere, AK Dept. of Environmental Conservation  
Maria Gladziszewski, City of Juneau  
Jack Hebert, Cold Climate Housing Research Center  
James Hornaday, City of Homer  
Scott Sloane, AK Dept. of Environmental Conservation  
Kate Troll, AK Conservation Alliance  
Randy Virgin, City of Anchorage  
Scott Waterman, AK Housing Finance Corporation

#### **Alaska State Representatives**

Jackie Poston, AK Dept. of Commerce, Community and Economic Development  
Susan McNeil, AK Dept. of Environmental Conservation

#### **CCS Staff**

Nancy Tosta, Ross & Associates  
Lydia Dobrovolny, Ross & Associates  
Amy Wheelless, Ross & Associates

#### **Public Participants**

Francie Roberts, City of Homer  
Kyra Wagner, Sustainable Homer

### **Meeting Summary**

#### **Meeting Materials**

All materials for the Cross-Cutting Issues Technical Working Group (CC TWG) will be available here: [http://www.akclimatechange.us/Cross\\_Cutting\\_Issues.cfm](http://www.akclimatechange.us/Cross_Cutting_Issues.cfm). For this meeting, the following materials were posted:

- Meeting Presentation
- Cross-Cutting Issues Draft Catalog of State Policy Options
- Cross-Cutting Issues Mitigation Option Descriptions
- Draft Alaska Emissions Inventory and Forecast

These materials cover the majority of what was discussed at this meeting. The following notes summarize the discussion highlights and identified action items for TWG members.

## Structure, Roles and Processes

Nancy Tosta, CCS Facilitator, discussed the background, structure and roles of the TWGs, and the process that the TWGs would be using to develop proposed state actions to address mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions. Major points from this presentation are as follows:

- Alaska Administrative Order #238 established the Climate Change Sub-Cabinet (CCSC), which then established a Mitigation Advisory Group (MAG) and an Adaptation Advisory Group (AAG) to make recommendations on policy options for mitigation and adaptation activities to the CCSC.
  - In turn, the AGs receive inputs from Technical Working Groups (TWGS).
  - The MAG is supported by five TWGs: Agriculture, Forestry & Waste; Cross-Cutting Issues; Energy Supply & Demand; Oil & Gas; and Transportation & Land Use.
- The Mitigation TWGs will review the draft emissions inventory and forest; review and develop possible actions; develop initial proposals on actions; and provide input to the MAG for the final report.
- The CC TWG will focus on “lead by example” activities for the government, as well as public outreach and education activities.
- Members of the TWGs are expected to attend meetings, be supportive of the process, remain up-to-date on TWG information, and make objective contributions.

Action Item: To facilitate the CC TWG meeting process, members of the CC TWG should email Amy Wheelless at [amy.wheelless@ross-assoc.com](mailto:amy.wheelless@ross-assoc.com) with:

- The best or worst days for scheduling a regular recurring meeting for the CC TWG. These meetings will take place roughly every 3 weeks through March 2009 for 2 hours each.
- Up-to-date contact information, and if a TWG member does not want to share their information with other TWG members.

## Alaska Emissions Inventory and Forecast

Nancy Tosta reviewed the draft emission inventory and forecast for Alaska, which is available on the CC TWG website. Major discussion points of this presentation are as follows:

- The emissions inventory used established inventory methods, with a preference for Alaska-specific data when available, and includes all major emitting sectors.
- Questions about or potential changes to this document will be collected by the TWG to discuss at the upcoming July MAG meeting.
  - One TWG member mentioned that the AK Housing Finance Corporation has a database (“AK Warm”) of building energy ratings, with one output being carbon dioxide emissions. This could be a useful source of data for this inventory.
- While the draft inventory and forecast provides emissions estimates for particular years, the MAG has not decided on a baseline year on which impact results will be based. The baseline for the TWGs to use in their consideration of options will likely be discussed at the upcoming MAG meeting.

Action Item: TWG Members should review the draft emissions inventory for further questions and suggestions to bring to the July MAG meeting, and send those comments to Amy Wheelless at [amy.wheelless@ross-assoc.com](mailto:amy.wheelless@ross-assoc.com).

## Catalog of State Mitigation Activities and Policies

Lydia Dobrovolny, CCS Facilitator, discussed the draft catalog of state mitigation activities and policies that the CC TWG will review, analyze and develop more fully over the coming months. Major discussion points of this presentation are as follows:

- An initial list of potential state actions has been developed for this TWG to review. This list has been informed by the catalog of actions developed by CCS when working with other state mitigation plans, as well as Alaska-specific and other government documents.
- The TWGs will develop a complete list of possible actions that the state could adopt or implement to mitigate greenhouse gases, prior to the July MAG meeting.
- Each TWG will then prioritize a set of actions to recommend to the MAG, based on criteria that includes amount of greenhouse gases the action would reduce, cost, co-benefits and feasibility issues.
- Some of the options in the draft catalog are moving forward under other current state or federal efforts, which will be noted in the catalog.
- TWG members mentioned that having a collection of reference material to refer to when developing options would be helpful.
  - Examples of government “lead by example” actions would be particularly useful references, such as other state climate plans or local government plans.
  - These materials could be posted on the CC TWG website for TWG members and public participants to refer to.

Action Item: All group members will review the draft catalog of actions, and add, change or notate options, as needed.

- TWG members will focus on assembling a complete list of options first.
- For the present time, additions will be made on a Word or Excel document; once a list of actions is fully compiled, the TWG may use another format that is conducive for reviewing and ranking.
- TWG members should email their completed options catalogs to Amy Wheelless at [amy.wheelless@ross-assoc.com](mailto:amy.wheelless@ross-assoc.com) by COB Thursday, June 26 so that a compilation of changes and additions can be posted on the website.

Action Item: The CC TWG facilitators will send out a list of possible material to include in a reference collection for comment or additions by the TWG members. This material will be posted on the CC TWG website. Additional resources should be sent to Amy Wheelless at [amy.wheelless@ross-assoc.com](mailto:amy.wheelless@ross-assoc.com).

**The next meeting of the CC TWG will be Tuesday, July 1 from 11am to 1pm.** Members of the public can listen-in to the meeting by calling 1-800-704-9804, passcode 661718.