

Alaska Climate Change Strategy

Photo: J. Hurdsey

Cross-Cutting Issues Technical Work Group **Alaska Mitigation Advisory Group** **Meeting #2: Conference Call Summary** **July 1, 2008**

Participants

TWG Participants

Lynda Giguere, AK Dept. of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
Maria Gladziszewski, City of Juneau
Paul Klitzke, Alaska Interfaith Power & Light
Haines Landry, JL Properties (*Substitute for John Rubini*)
Doug O’Harra, Online News and Far North Science
Scott Sloane, AK Dept. of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
Kate Troll, AK Conservation Alliance

CCS Staff

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

Public Participants

Scott Dickinson, U.S. Air Force
Kyra Wagner, Sustainable Homer

Meeting Summary

Meeting Materials

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

- Cross-Cutting Issues Draft Catalog of State Policy Options
- Cross-Cutting Issues Draft Option Descriptions
- Meeting Summary for Meeting #1

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.

Review and Approval of Meeting #1 Summary

Meeting participants reviewed the minutes, made minor changes and approved them. The changes will be incorporated into the meeting summary and re-posted onto the website.

Comments on Alaska Emissions Inventory and Forecast

The TWG members discussed their comments on the draft Alaska Emissions Inventory and Forecast. These comments are summarized below:

- ADEC has received a number of public comments on the emissions inventory and will post these comments along with their responses on the ADEC website soon. The CC TWG website will link to these comments once they are posted on the DEC webpage.
- TWG members emphasized the need to establish a baseline year and emissions level in order to establish mitigation targets and understand the impact of different options. The MAG will be addressing this issue at their meeting later in July.
- A TWG member inquired whether the inventory has information on specific sources of greenhouse gas emissions, in order to best inform possible mitigation options.
- Including very specific information on the sources of emissions may not be possible, but ADEC has some sector information included in their response document to the inventory, “Summary Report of Improvements to the Greenhouse Gas Inventory.” This document has been posted at the CC TWG website:
<http://www.akclimatechange.us/ewebeditpro/items/O97F18371.pdf>.

General and specific comments about the draft emissions inventory and forecast will be collected and given to the MAG and ADEC.

Action Item: Members are encouraged to send any additional comments they have about the inventory and forecast to Amy Wheelless (amy.wheelless@ross-assoc.com).

Draft Catalog of State Mitigation Activities and Policies

After the last CC TWG meeting, TWG members submitted comments, additions and deletions to the draft catalog of mitigation actions and policies. During this meeting, TWG members reviewed the compiled changes and added more options for consideration, which are captured on the next iteration of the draft catalog of options. The goal of this step in the process is to develop as complete and comprehensive a catalog as possible to give to the MAG.

Major points from this discussion:

- There many examples of ways that state and local governments can “lead by example”, including setting goals on materials sourced for use in buildings, setting government energy challenges, purchasing transit passes or encouraging telecommuting by employees, and purchasing energy efficient equipment.
 - These actions could be divided into short-, mid- and long-term actions for state and local governments to pursue.
 - These actions can serve as public outreach on these issues, as well as allowing the governments to take leadership roles.
- Integrating the outreach proposals into some integrated actions may make more sense, rather than creating very specific actions for targeted audiences at this stage.

Action Item: Following this meeting, the CC TWG facilitators will send a revised draft catalog of options to TWG members for review. Any additional changes should be sent to Amy Wheelless (amy.wheelless@ross-assoc.com) by COB Monday, July 7.

- The catalog will be revised based on any changes and then sent to the MAG, which will review full option catalogs from all of the mitigation TWGs at their meeting July 15.

TWG Process for Soliciting Feedback on Actions

CC TWG members discussed whether soliciting feedback and prioritization on the potential actions in an online forum, such as a discussion board or a wiki, would be possible and useful for this group. It was decided the group would try some methods of online collaboration on the policy options and decide steps forward from there. This process will be discussed more at future CC TWG meetings.

Public Input and Announcements

Two public participants shared their input and asked questions related to the CC TWG's activities.

- One participant wanted to know how Alaska would be handling significant emission reductions that have happened in the recent past and if there would be credit for early action. Future legislation may take this early action reduction efforts into account, though it may not be in the scope of this TWG.
- Another participant noted that a public awareness campaign will likely be needed to engage the public on the positive aspects of climate action and to build community spirit about local and state government activities.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the CC TWG will be scheduled to take place after the MAG meets in mid-July, and Amy Wheelless will send a Meeting Wizard request to TWG members to find a time.

A meeting notice and agenda will be posted on the website when the meeting has been scheduled. Members of the public can listen-in to the meeting by calling 1-800-704-9804, passcode 661718.