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MEETING SUMMARY
ALASKA CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION ADVISORY GROUP
Forestry, Agriculture, and Waste Management Technical Work Group
(FAW TWG)

Call #11, March 18, 2009, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Attendance:

1. Technical Working Group members:
Doug Buteyn, Chris Maisch, Ron Wolfe, Donna Mears
2. Center for Climate Strategies (CCS) staff:
Steve Roe (steve.roe@pechan.com), Brad Strode (brad.strode@pechan.com), Jackson Schreiber (jackson.schreiber@pechan.com)
3. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Observers: None
4. Public Attendees: Erin Uloth, United States Forest Service

Background documents:

(all posted at [http://www.akclimatechange.us/Agriculture Forestry Waste.cfm](http://www.akclimatechange.us/Agriculture_Forestry_Waste.cfm))

1. Summary of Conference Call #10
2. Meeting Notice and Agenda
3. PowerPoint for Teleconference
4. FAW Policy Options Document
5. Inventory and Forecast Appendices
 - a. Forestry
 - b. Agriculture
 - c. Waste Management

Discussion items and key issues:

This was the eleventh meeting of the FAW TWG.

1. Steve Roe called the meeting to order, completed the roll call and reviewed the agenda and plans for the call.
2. CCS reviewed the summary from Call #10 and asked if the TWG had any further input that should be included in the call summary. No changes to the Call #10 Summary were proposed.

3. CCS gave an overview of the process and identified the TWG's current location on the 10-step Stepwise Planning Process.
4. The next steps for the TWG include proceeding with the quantitative analysis of options FAW-1, FAW-2, and FAW-3. CCS has completed draft quantification for FAW-1 and FAW-2, as well as revised quantification of FAW-3. Regarding work that has been queued up for the Inventory and Forecast, CCS announced during Call #10 that the following items will need to be added to the Research Needs Work Group (RNWG) list of items: 1) future soil carbon losses in melting permafrost; and 2. the treatment of the boreal forest as a non-anthropogenic source,. Treatment of these topics is beyond the level of resources available to this TWG.
5. Chris Maisch updated the FAW TWG on the Research Needs Work Group. No new news concerning the FAW TWG was reported at this time.
6. The Inventory and Forecast Appendices have been updated and CCS requested TWG approval to present these appendices at the MAG meeting on April 2. A TWG member suggested that new data has come to light that could have a significant impact on the Forestry I&F. Some of these data are expected to impact the FAW-1 and FAW-2 quantification.
7. CCS reviewed the updates to the Inventory and Forecast. Each appendix has been updated to reflect the extension of the forecast to 2025. The Waste Management Appendix has been updated to reflect the most recent data provided by the FAW TWG on landfill waste emplacement. Additionally, the Forestry Appendix was updated to include a brief discussion of the uncertainty regarding permafrost and carbon flux (in addition to a minor change to one of the charts). The TWG was asked to provide comment on these documents. A TWG member suggested that more time will be necessary to provide a thorough critical review. CCS requests the TWG to conduct its final review of the I&F appendices and send notification for any revisions to Brad (brad.strode@pechan.com). A TWG member suggested a deadline of Thursday, March 26 for red-line edits to the I&F Appendices.
8. CCS presented the updated Policy Options Document (POD), beginning with the summary table on page 1 of the document. This table displays the key quantitative results of the analyses of each option. The next table presented was the biomass supply and demand table, which begins on the second page of the POD. The TWG presented new information (CROP Study) prior to the meeting that will help update this table. CCS requests guidance from the respective TWG members on selection of the correct biomass values from this study that will represent potential biomass supplies for energy use. The TWG also questioned whether there is any overlap between Urban Wood Waste, MSW Fiber, and Yard and Landscape Waste Debris. CCS will review this issue and edit the values represented in Table 1, as needed. CCS will furnish TWG volunteers on FAW-1 and FAW-2 with an MS Word version of the POD to incorporate revisions under FAW-1 and FAW-2.
9. CCS has revised FAW-3 since the previous meeting. CCS asked the TWG members assisting with the data gathering process to provide the rest of the Group with an overview of which numbers were updated and why these numbers were updated. CCS

then provided the updated results and pointed out where text had been added to the Key Uncertainties and Additional Benefits and Costs sections.

10. CCS provided a review of the quantification of FAW-1. An important consideration of GHG benefits under this option was whether or not the TWG should claim the benefits associated with higher levels of carbon stored in biomass for future use in durable wood products from 2010-2025 that result from pre-commercial thinning. As presented in the POD, the TWG was comfortable with showing these potential benefits, but not including them in the summarized results for FAW-1. Off-line feedback on FAW-1 should be provided directly to Steve Roe (sroe@pechan.com).
11. CCS reviewed the quantification of FAW-2. Prior to the meeting, an absent TWG member provided input via e-mail. One of the overarching themes of this input was that the costs have been underestimated, especially the feedstock cost. CCS used an assumed cost of \$65/dry ton and also did a sensitivity run with a much higher value. One comment from the TWG centered on the assumed baseline electricity price, which the TWG suggested should be revised based on data specific to small AK communities. A question was raised regarding the efficacy of the third element of FAW-2 (liquid biofuels production, assuming cellulosic ethanol). Experience from TWG members suggests that cellulosic ethanol is not feasible in southeast Alaska, given the availability and cost of forest biomass feedstock. The TWG is encouraged to provide this feedback off-line by sending an e-mail to Jackson Schreiber. CCS suggested that the element continue to focus on smaller plants, possibly in close proximity to population centers, so that other feedstock sources could be used (e.g. MSW fiber).
12. CCS requested that TWG members provide CCS with text for various sections needed to fill out the POD. These sections include: Implementation Mechanisms; Key Uncertainties; Additional Benefits and Costs; and Feasibility Issues. CCS suggested in previous calls that TWG members review policy options developed in other states as a source of initial ideas on the text for these sections (links to other state programs were sent to the TWG previously by Brad). Text for these sections should be sent to Brad Strobe (brad.strobe@pechan.com).
13. CCS discussed the next steps for the TWG. The TWG and CCS will work off-line to complete changes to the Forestry I&F, if needed (see point above about the inclusion of forestry I&F issues in the research needs list). Any updates to the POD or I&F appendices should be submitted no later than March 26, 2009 to Brad (brad.strobe@pechan.com). CCS will need to turn around any revisions quickly in order to post them a week in advance of the next MAG meeting on April 2.
14. No members of the public were on the call.

Next steps and agreements:

1. The next meeting of the FAW TWG is April 15, 2009 from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM Alaskan time.
2. TWG members should work to submit text for the following sections: Implementation Mechanisms, Related Programs and Policies in Place, Key Uncertainties, Additional

Benefits and Costs, and Feasibility Issues. Submit this material directly to Brad Strobe for FAW-3 (brad.strobe@pechan.com).

3. Below is a table which includes the TWG volunteers for each option. The volunteers should communicate off-line to review/revise text for the POD prior to submittal to CCS. This material will then be presented to the Group for discussion during the next call. **Group leaders are in bold.**

Revised Option #	Draft Policy Option Name	Straw Proposal Volunteers
FAW-1	Forest Management Strategies for Carbon Sequestration	Ron Wolfe, Rick Rogers, Chris Maisch
FAW-2	Expanded Use of Biomass Feedstocks for Energy Production	Charles Knight, Ron Wolfe , Rick Rogers
FAW-3	Advanced Waste Reduction and Recycling	Donna Mears, Kathie Wasserman, Doug Buteyn , Charles Knight