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DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
Vermont Governor's Commission on Climate Change – Plenary Group (GCCC-PG)
Agriculture, Forestry & Waste Resource Management (AFW)
Technical Work Group
Call #4, January 4, 2007

Attendance:

1. TWG Members: Paula Calabrese, Abe Collins, Jennifer Jenkins, Steve Wheeler, Elaine Wang (for Debra Sachs), William Sayre, Elizabeth Courtney
2. Public: None
3. CCS: Steve Roe, Katie Bickel
4. VTDEC: Jeff Merrell

Background documents:

(all posted at http://www.vtclimatechange.us/Agriculture_Forestry.cfm)

1. Agenda
2. Power Point Presentation to the AFW TWG
3. AFW Catalogue of State Climate Change Mitigation Options
4. Summary Notes from Call #3
5. Example of Completed Policy Option Template

Discussion and conclusions:

1. CCS reviewed draft summary from last call and noted that a set list of dates for TWG calls was included in the last call summary. CCS also noted that background appendices of the GHG Inventory & Forecast had been posted and TWG members were asked for input in the last call summary. No changes were needed to the summary.
2. CCS reviewed the results of the AFW voting outcomes on priority options. Eight TWG members voted (out of 12); twelve priority options were identified (options receiving 2 or more votes). Based on comments received during the voting process, CCS made recommendations for further consolidation of options; consolidation recommendations were reflected in the list of 12 priority options reviewed on the call.
3. TWG members discussed and supported the voting outcomes compiled by CCS. In particular, the TWG supported the proposed consolidation and renaming of options (see list below for final option titles; this list has been reordered by sector since the call). In addition, the TWG made the following modifications to the options: AFW-4 was expanded to cover soil carbon management in general, i.e., including practices such as subsoil tilling, biograzing, and reduced chemical use, as well as conservation/no-till; AFW-7 Manure Digesters/Other Waste Energy Utilization was expanded to include other



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potential changes in manure management practices, such as composting; and AFW-11 Pricing Programs to Reduce Waste Generation was expanded to include Source Reduction Strategies (which received one vote during the balloting). The final list of priority options has been re-ordered by sector and is included at the bottom of this document.

4. Issues and comments about how to develop and analyze mitigation options were raised during the discussion and noted.
5. Next steps were briefly discussed. The final list of recommended priority options, which is included in this document, will be reviewed by the Plenary Group at their next meeting on 1/18/07. The Plenary Group will consider the recommendations and respond to the TWG with an approved list (which may include changes to the TWG recommendations and/or additional options). On the next TWG call (scheduled for 2/6/07), CCS will review the final list of priority options approved by the Plenary Group and coordinate volunteers to begin drafting straw proposals for each of the options.
6. Due to limited time, the Inventory and Forecast was not discussed. Time will be allotted on the next TWG call to review questions and comments from the TWG.

Next Steps

1. CCS will present the recommended list of priority options to the Plenary Group at their next meeting.
2. Plenary group meeting will be held on 1/18/07.
3. The next TWG meeting will be 2/6/07 from 1-3 EST.



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VT AFW TWG Priorities for Analysis

AFW Option No.	GHG Reduction Policy Option
1	Programs to Support Local Farming/Buy Local
2	Agricultural Soil Carbon Management Programs
3	Manure Management Methods to Achieve GHG Benefits
4	Preserve Open Space/Agricultural Land
5	Forestry Programs to Enhance GHG Benefits
6	Increased Forest Biomass Energy Use
7	Forest Protection – Reduced Clearing and Conversion to Nonforest Cover
8	Expanded Use of Durable Wood Products (especially from VT sources)
9	Improved Mill Waste Recovery and Use
10	Advanced/Expanded Recycling and Composting
11	Programs to Reduce Waste Generation
12	Waste Water Treatment - Energy Efficiency Improvements