



**SUMMARY OF TELECONFERENCE MEETING #6
CROSS-CUTTING (CC) ISSUES TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG)
April 23, 2007**

Attendance:

1. TWG Members:
Nadine Barnicle, Canter Barnicle Communications
Alan Betts, Vermont Academy of Science & Engineering
Paul Cameron, Brattleboro Climate Protection
Virginia Lyons, VT Senate Natural Resources & Energy Committee
Deb Sachs, Alliance for Climate Action
2. VT Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC):
Jeff Merrell
3. Center for Climate Strategies (CCS):
Ken Colburn, TWG Co-Facilitator
Randy Strait, TWG Co-Facilitator

Background documents:

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

1. Meeting Notice & Agenda (including provisions for public access)
2. Draft Summary of Call #5
3. PowerPoint© presentation for meeting
4. Draft Policy Option Descriptions

Discussion items and key issues:

This was the sixth conference call of the CC TWG.

1. Ken Colburn called the meeting to order, completed the roll call and reviewed the agenda and plans for the call.
2. Members of the CC TWG approved without objection the summary for Call #5.
3. Dates and Times for Remaining TWG Calls: See item #1 under "Action Items" at the end of this summary.
4. Goals for Governor's Commission on Climate Change-Plenary Group (GCCC-PG) Meeting #5: Colburn noted that the fifth meeting of the GCCC-PG will be held on May 17, 2007. The goals for the CC TWG will be to develop its remaining policy option straw proposals for review and approval by the GCCC-

PG, and to further flesh out remaining template elements for policy options that the PG has already approved and sent to the Legislature as early consensus options.

5. Discussion Regarding Development of Straw Proposals for Policy Options:
 - a. Education and Outreach (CC-4): The TWG discussed this option at length and agreed that, although the GCCC-PG had approved this option, the option could be strengthened by including a marketing brand theme to engage all entities including the general public as well as communities and businesses through transferable, marketing-oriented frameworks that can provide measurable year-to-year results. The TWG agreed to provide slight revisions to the straw proposal “Description” and “Design” to incorporate these thoughts. The small group for this option agreed to develop the strategy for the “Implementation Mechanisms” part of the straw proposal. The TWG also agreed to add the following under “Related Policies/Programs in Place:”
 - Vermont Earth Institute [www.vt.earth.institute@valley.net].
 - Vermont Energy Investment corporation and Efficiency Vermont [www.veic.org] and [www.encyvermont.org].
 - Vermont Interfaith Power & Light [www.vtipl.org]
 - b. Options for State Greenhouse Gas Goals or Targets (CC-6): Colburn reviewed the goals and targets adopted by other states, noting differences in GHG reduction levels, baseline years, and timing. He also provided a brief overview of items for the TWG to consider as it works on developing the baseline against which to measure GHG emission reductions (gross- versus net-emissions, production- versus consumption-based emissions). There was no further discussion of this option by the TWG.
 - c. State’s Own GHG Emissions / Lead by Example (CC-7): The TWG agreed that Vermont’s GHG emission reduction goals should also be included in the goals for reducing GHG emissions from state operations for this option. The TWG then discussed how to fill in information under “Implementation Mechanisms” and “Related Policies/Programs in Place.” For the “Implementation Mechanisms” section of the straw proposal, the TWG members agreed that the following topics should be included:
 - Acknowledge that implementation may be possible – or at least assisted – by current, parallel efforts to implement the *Vermont State Agency Energy Plan*.
 - The state should lead by example by adopting best practices across the board to serve as a model for other emitters.
 - The state should frame – and target – the emission reductions called for as continuous annual improvement efforts (e.g., reducing emissions ~3% per year over the long term).

- State procurement processes should contribute substantially in assisting agency emission reduction efforts.
- Education, outreach, and marketing efforts should apply to and engage the state as well as non-governmental sources. High performing agencies should receive public recognition as well. Ways to promote greater interaction and “cross-pollination” within and among state agencies should be developed.
- Agency progress in meeting the state’s reduction targets should be one of the yardsticks by which agency performance is measured.

In addition, the TWG members agreed to add the following items under the “Related Policies/Programs in Place” section of the straw proposal:

- Ongoing work of the interagency Climate Neutral Working Group (CNWG);
- *Vermont State Agency Energy Plan*; and
- Act 250 requirements (e.g., Criteria 9F). The state legislature asked the Vermont Natural Resources Board to ensure GHG issues are considered.

6. Call to the Public: There were no public participants.
7. Announcements: The next GCCC-PG meeting will be held on May 17, 2007.

Next steps:

1. The next CC TWG call (#7) was originally scheduled to be held on Monday, June 4, 2007, from 2:00 to 3:30 pm Eastern time. However, after Call #6 VT DEC and CCS agreed to delay the call until June 13 from 11:30 to 1:00 because of a conflict with a TLU TWG face-to-face meeting on June 4th. CCS will notify the full TWG of the date and time for Call #7 and send a reminder out several days before the call.
2. Prior to the GCCC-PG meeting, CCS will revise the straw proposals for CC-4 and CC-7 to incorporate revisions discussed during Call #6, and will coordinate with the small group for CC-4 to fill-in the text for the “Implementation Mechanisms” section of the straw proposal. The revised straw proposals will be presented to the GCCC-PG during its meeting on May 17.