



**SUMMARY OF TELECONFERENCE MEETING #1**  
**Florida Adaptation Technical Work Group (TWG)**  
**February 29, 2008**  
**10:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST**

**Attendance:**

*[Below is incomplete due to conference call problems].*

1. TWG members: Camille Coley, Debbie Harrison, Jim Murley, Diana Ferguson, Audrey Brown, Hilary Swain, Peter Merritt, Doug Shaw, Ricardo Alvarez, Meg Lowman, Gary Appelson, Paul Johnson, Secretary Tom Pelham.
2. Stephen Adams, Theresa Muzetto.
3. Center for Climate Strategies: Ken Colburn, Tom Peterson, Bill Dougherty, and Linda Schade.

**Background materials:**

*(Posted at [www.flclimatechange.us](http://www.flclimatechange.us))*

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. PowerPoint for Teleconference #1
3. Governor Code of Conduct
4. Florida Sunshine Law

**Discussion Items and Issues:**

This was the first call of the Florida Adaptation TWG.

1. Ken Colburn of CCS called the meeting to order, called roll, and reviewed the agenda for the call.
2. Theresa Muzetto explained Florida sunshine laws: minutes must be prepared for the meeting. Sound recordings may be used but are not required. Reasonable accommodation for public access in public notice, sufficient phone lines, etc. must be made.

Code of Ethics: If you have a conflict of interest you should abstain from voting. If you have any questions, please call for more information through Steve Adams.

Each and every conversation regarding this process must be public-noticed. This means if TWG members meet on the street or in any other context, Climate Action Team matters should not be discussed if the public hasn't been invited. Members should not speak to each other before the meeting or in other any circumstance about the process. Further, members cannot communicate with other members through a third party such as a staff person. This is due to 0701 Open Government Laws which the Governor recently signed.

3. Stephen Adams shared information on the State and Federal Workshop at the Pew Climate conference, the Florida Interim Report and details of the \$200 million which the Governor has put in the budget for climate and energy work. \$100 million is earmarked for renewable energy-related economic development; \$50 million for renewable energy including rebates to consumers, and businesses, and ocean energy research. It includes tax breaks for energy efficiency for businesses, leadership by example programs and more.

The Governor is looking at legislative that is relevant to the C&T group. Mandatory reporting to the climate registry will be required for utilities. Every three years building efficiency is mandated to increase 15%. Also the Governor seeks to implement a renewable fuel standard to require bio-fuel. The bio-fuels component would have to include a 30% life cycle analysis.

Mr. Adams reviewed the following elements for the Baseline Adaptation Framework:

- Climate adaptation science – what kind and level of action the science suggests.  
Public Sector Planning & Investment
- Property and Casualty Insurance
- State funding and financing
- Economic development, health and social effects
- Organizing state government for the long haul

4. Ken Colburn of CCS reviewed roles and process steps for the Adaptation TWG.

Jim Murley noted that substantial preliminary work had been done at Florida Atlantic University, with the support of the National Commission on Energy Policy, which has identified five major principles to guide state government on adaptation, and that the Miami-Dade Climate Action Task Force had been working in this direction as well.

5. Ken Colburn reviewed various ways to approach the development of an Adaptation Catalog and how some other states tackled adaptation processes. Maryland started with a focus on sea level rise which shaped their work groups: Health Safety and Human and Welfare, Natural Resources and Resource-based Industries, Future and Existing Built Environment. Washington had a broader focus and created task forces of Forest Resources, Agriculture, Human Health, Water Resources & Quality (Freshwater), and Coastal & Infrastructure.

One TWG member noted that temperature, precipitation and other changes beyond SLR are in play, and suggested that the TWG should talk about a timeline with regard to qualitative metrics.

Ken also reviewed the possibility of creating a catalog disaggregated by vulnerable sectors and/or which considered these key questions:

- Adaptation to what?
- What are current and future climate risks?

- Who is vulnerable and needs to adapt?
- When should options/policies be implemented?
- What is scale for intervention?

Florida is a leader in Adaptation and constructing the list of initial adaptation policy options will be a big part of the work.

TWG Questions: What is the best way to offer policy suggestions and can we meet face-to-face? Send policy ideas to Steve. Steve will look at an opportunity for the Adaptation TWG to meet face-to-face in connection with future stakeholder meetings. Steve will also work to provide a list of members and organizations as soon as members are officially appointed (which is still in process).

6. Climate Scenarios discussion. One scenario assumes one meter SLR by 2050. Another TWG member suggested that Dr. Wanless should be reviewed; he has higher estimates than the international numbers of SLR.

### **Public Comments**

Rhonda Russ requested that the documents that the team will be reviewing will be posted to the website. In the future, this is standard procedure. Are the regional planning councils of the state on the team? Yes some are. I think that the planning councils have done some excellent work that would be useful to this process. South Florida FAU Ocean Engineering is a resource. Ms. Russ also recommended the website [www.sfrestore.org](http://www.sfrestore.org).

Robert Farmer commented that the IPCC and others have expressed difficulty around what scenarios should be worked on, in that polar ice is melting much more rapidly than anticipated. We may be looking at much more rapid sea level rise than we think.

Rolph Olsen at the Army Corps of Engineers is important info source.

Also as we consider Turkey Island nuclear plant – and I am not anti-nuclear because it may be necessary given what we are facing - I am concerned about plans to expand nuclear zones in places just a few feet above sea level. Turkey Island is just 5 feet above SL.

Michael (from state agency) – notes that location of nuclear plants is something we are aware of and I'll bring this issue back.

Mr. Farmer also stressed critical importance of public education.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Adaptation TWG call will be on Thursday, March 6, 2008 at 10:00am to noon.