



**Governor's Action Team on Energy and Climate Change**  
*State of Florida*

**FLORIDA ENERGY and CLIMATE ACTION TEAM**

**Agriculture, Forestry, and Waste Technical Work Group (TWG)**  
**Notice of Teleconference Meeting, Call #3**  
**April 30, 2008**  
**1:00 PM – 3:00 PM EST**

**Attendance:**

1. Technical Working Group members:  
Mike Branch, Marc Bruner, Paul Willis (for Jimmy Cheek), Doria Gordon, Eugene Jones, Jay Levenstein, R. David McConnell, Gary Peter, Dan Roach, Kevin Robertson, Andrew Walmsley, Doug Parson (for Nick Wiley)
2. Center for Climate Strategies (CCS) staff:  
Steve Roe, Rachel Anderson
3. Florida Department of Environmental Protection: James McNeil
4. Florida Agency Observers: None.
5. Public Attendees: None.

**Background documents:**

(all posted at <http://www.flclimatechange.us/AFW.cfm>)

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. Summary of Call #3
3. Power Point Presentations for Teleconference
4. Florida AFW Ballot Results
5. Florida AFW Catalog
6. Florida AFW Options Descriptions
7. Florida Agriculture Draft Inventory & Forecast
8. Florida Forestry Draft Inventory & Forecast
9. Florida Waste Draft Inventory & Forecast

**Discussion items and key issues:**

1. Steve Roe called the meeting to order, Rachel Anderson completed the roll call, and Steve reviewed the agenda and plans for the call.



## Governor's Action Team on Energy and Climate Change *State of Florida*

2. Steve reviewed the Call 3 summary. Much of the call was used to discuss notional ratings of the options based upon the TWG members' input. The Inventory & Forecast (I&F) was also briefly reviewed.
3. Today, we will be reviewing the ballot results as well as the I&F.
4. In terms of the stepwise process, the TWG is just completing the identification of initial priorities for analysis and, once approved by the Action Team, the TWG will begin straw policy design.
5. A TWG member asked: When are the comments on the drafts of the appendices for the I&F due? CCS responded that we will likely be spending the next couple of months working on the I&F, so the members will have time to submit comments, provide new data sources, and update the I&F and appendices (i.e. additional time after the next FL Action Team meeting on 5/29/2008 will be available).
6. At the next Florida Action Team meeting, they will review the TWG's priority options. At their July meeting they will review the straw proposals.
7. CCS then began to review the Ballot results and referred to the Ballot Results document that was posted on the AFW TWG website. These ballot results were based on votes of TWG members as well as recommendations for consolidation. The initial cutoff for high priority items was anything that received at least 5 votes. Options that received 2-4 votes were designated as medium priority items. Options that received less than 2 votes were designated low priority. The consolidated options were reviewed as follows:
  - a. AFW-1: Change title from "Forest Protection—Reduced Clearing and Conversion to Non-forest Cover" to "Forest Retention - Reduced Conversion of Forested to Non-forested Land Uses". TWG member notes they don't want to scare industrial foresters who harvest land for replanting by stating that clearing would be reduced for those purposes.
  - b. AFW-2: "Afforestation and/or Restoration of Non-forested Lands" – planting trees on land that is not already in a forested state. Members noted that the public might not be familiar with the term afforestation and stated we need to footnote or define the terms afforestation & reforestation.
  - c. AFW-3: "Forest Management for Carbon Sequestration." This can take a lot of forms and could be open to include things such as fire risk reduction, different harvesting rotations, fertilization, invasive species and pest mitigation. A TWG member noted that they thought this referred to the growing and silviculture processes of trees and that fire is a big enough issue in FL that it should not be consolidated with option 7.4. A member noted that carbon is also sequestered in long-lived wood products. CCS noted that 7.4 is very broad and in the next phase of the process we'll start to describe in more detail the elements this TWG would like to see in this option.



## Governor's Action Team on Energy and Climate Change

### *State of Florida*

- d. AFW-4: "Land Use Management that Promotes Permanent Cover". CCS and members noted that permanent cover does not refer to annual crops, but perennial crop systems or pasture could be included. Maintenance in Conservation Reserve Program or other conservation programs could also be included. Basically, anything that does not involve annual tilling. A member asked if it might include perennial grass that could be harvested for bioethanol conversion. Another member noted it could include no-till cropping. Members wanted the name to indicate the types of permanent cover options that could be included: perennial crop, orchard, or rangeland cover. The title was changed to "Land Use Management that Promotes Conversion from Annual Crops to Perennial Cover." A member noted the water Best Management Practices listed in the option descriptions document are misplaced in this option. They will be stricken from the description document.
- e. AFW-5: "Expanded Use of Biomass Feedstocks for Electricity, Heat and Steam Production." This option received broad support across forestry, waste, and ag sectors. Members noted that it is worth explicitly stating forestry and waste in the title, so the title was changed to "Expanded Use of Forestry, Agriculture, and Waste Management Biomass Feedstocks for Electricity, Heat and Steam Production."
- f. AFW-6: "Soil Carbon Management." In the balloting document, one member suggested combining with 3.2 Nutrient Management and 3.3 Technology Improvements to Increase Efficiency; however TWG members were reluctant to lump them together noting that soil carbon focuses on tillage methods and other soil management approaches. Including nutrients might diminish the importance of no-till and other methods.
- g. AFW-7: "Preserve Open Space/Agricultural Land." A member noted that this needs to focus on sequestering carbon, not just focus on open space. A member suggested changing "preserve" to "promote" so that it would help to preserve what is currently there and promote new land to go into it. The whole purpose of this option is to reduce the rate of development. Another member noted the best way to do this is to preserve the land use while utilizing the land – not just preserving the land. The title was changed to "Reduce the Rate of Agricultural Land and Open Space Conversion to Development."
- h. AFW-8: "In-state Liquid/Gaseous Biofuels Production." This option differs from AFW-5 in end-use by displacing liquid fuel (usually transportation), whereas the other focuses more on stationary source and solid fuel applications. The differences are portability and technology-based. The feedstock going in to AFW-5 and AFW-8 are the same.
- i. AFW-9: "Promotion of Bioreactor Technology (Advanced Municipal Solid waste management practices)." This option looks at the organics



## Governor's Action Team on Energy and Climate Change

### State of Florida

fraction of the solid waste stream. A member noted that sending the biomass to bioreactors competes with other biomass uses. The TWG will monitor biomass supply and demand across policy options in this group as well as demands from other workgroups during the phase of the process covering detailed policy design.

8. CCS noted that this first group of 9 priorities is what we'll present to the Action Team for their approval. They will see the medium priority options as well and may move some up into the high priority section based on their discussions at the meeting.
9. A member noted that option 8.2 Improved Logging Residue Recovery could feed into option 6.1, which is focused on the use of biomass. Also, algal biofuels listed under option 11.5 – could fall under in-state liquid biofuels production. CCS noted that the TWG has a wide range of flexibility as to how the group wants to see these policy options designed. A member asked: What are PSC actions? This refers to the Public Service Commission. Members noted that the PSC needs to get on board to break down the barriers to some of the landfill gas-based actions. Another member noted that landfill gas projects (e.g. those taking part in EPA's Landfill Methane Outreach Program) are already going to happen, whereas others selected during the balloting process may or may not happen. There are some things PSC is doing to promote renewable energy. A TWG member mentioned that regulatory structures in FL make it really hard to generate electricity from renewables. Another noted that water intensiveness will be an issue for some of the options and that water is a major factor in any process or step that we take. CCS notes that the issues raised above are exactly the types of issues that the TWG should identify during the upcoming phase of the process devoted to detailed design.
10. CCS reminded the group that the TWG needs to complete the policy description and policy design before the July Action Team meeting. These will be the straw proposals. Once those are accepted, the TWG will add in material for the rest of the policy option template. TWG members should begin thinking about which options they would like to volunteer on to make contributions during the process.
11. In reference to the I&F, a member noted: ag numbers are going down because of development and waste is going up because of increasing population. Forestry is flat but does not reflect reality, noting that you can't have ag doing down and waste going up without forestry changing as well. Five years ago, the forest service was losing acreage quickly. There has been a slowdown in the loss of acreage, but we don't expect it to remain flat. US Forest Service numbers predicted loss of forest in the southeast US. FL Division of Forestry has some similar predictions for FL. If you have access to any FL-specific data that could improve the I&F, please send to Rachel at [Rachel.anderson@pechan.com](mailto:Rachel.anderson@pechan.com).
12. Next meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>: we will go over details of I&F appendices. Members are asked to please review the I&F appendices before next call on May 20<sup>th</sup>.



## Governor's Action Team on Energy and Climate Change

### *State of Florida*

13. Public comments: none.

#### **Next steps and agreements:**

1. The next TWG meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 am- 12:00 pm.
2. Next FL Action Team meeting is May 29<sup>th</sup>.
3. Dates for upcoming TWG conference calls:
  - a. May 20<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 12 pm
  - b. June 10<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 12 pm
  - c. June 24<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 12 pm
  - d. July 15<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 12 pm
  - e. July 29<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 12 pm
  - f. August 12<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 12 pm
  - g. August 26<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 12 pm