



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 #5
May 20, 2008
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM EDT

Attendance:

1. Technical Working Group members:
Mike Branch, Marc Bruner, Jimmy Cheek, Doria Gordon, Ray Scott (for Jay Levenstein), Karen Strong (for R. David McConnell), Gary Peter, Kevin Robertson, Andrew Walmsley, Nick Wiley
2. Center for Climate Strategies (CCS) staff:
Steve Roe, Rachel Anderson
3. Florida Department of Environmental Protection: James McNeil, Tom Swihart
4. Florida Agency Observers: Dave Bruderly, Bob Krasowski
5. Public Attendees: None.

Background documents:

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

1. Meeting Notice and Agenda
2. Summary of Call #4
3. Power Point Presentations for Teleconference
4. Updated Florida AFW Ballot Results
5. Updated Florida AFW Options Descriptions

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.
2. Steve reviewed the Call 4 summary. Much of the call was used to discuss balloting results. We consolidated a number of different options into 9 priorities for analysis. The Call summary was accepted without change.



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3. At next week's Florida Climate Action Team meeting each group will present their priorities for analysis for approval by the Action Team.
4. Today, we will be reviewing well the Inventory & Forecast (I&F) in-depth.
5. Agriculture: The inventory covers 1990-2005 and the forecast covers 2006- 2025 and includes assumptions and estimates about growth and activity. Soil carbon is dominated by cultivation of highly organic soils but is based on a single data point from USDA/EPA inventory. An updated report is expected this year from USDA but has not been released yet. Other categories are based on crop production values and livestock head counts from USDA/NASS. The method used to estimate emissions is based on an EPA workbook called the State Inventory Tool (SIT or SGIT). Projections are based primarily on historical trends. Public comment: There is uncertainty regarding how cultivation in the Lake Okeechobee area has changed in the last decade. We will work with Sabine Grunwald offline to check soil carbon numbers, however a preliminary look at her soil carbon publication indicates that the current I&F numbers are "within the ball-park." This forecast represents a "business as usual" baseline and does take into account potential impacts of policies such as a state or national cap and trade program.
6. Forestry: The inventory and forecast is broken down into forest landscapes, urban forestry, and wildfires. Losses of timber due to fires are captured in the forest landscape section. Member comment: FL forestry is probably not going to remain stable over the next 25 years, depending in development, climate, etc. CCS noted that some level of development is captured in the urban forest estimates. Wood products are also captured. Member question: Are production forests inventoried separately? CCS noted it is unclear if we can tease out privately owned production vs. non-production. A member noted that the University of Florida should have some numbers on each of those. A member commented that Mike Long at the Division of Forestry estimated that 80,000 forest acres were lost to development between 2000-2005. A Member asked if there has been a change in ag lands to forestry lands. TWG Members are asked to submit whatever sources they can find for forestry. CCS will also follow up with the University of Florida. A member noted that the Division of forestry tracks forest fires so we can use that data as well. A member commented that for urban tree cover we can't assume that urban areas maintain the same level of tree cover. It is unlikely that the amount of tree cover as a proportion of urban area remains constants. Counties are probably the best source for urban forestry but we would need to go county by county to collect that data and that would be difficult. A member noted that in the forest appendix that amount of Forests only added up to 90% and suggested some other edits:
 - a. 2nd paragraph – change to cover both prescribed fire and wildfire.
 - b. On Page 7 – under wildfires, in paragraph 1 it isn't clear from the source if it refers only to wildfires or to prescribed fires as well. These data appear to relate only to accidental fires, not prescribed fires. "Wildfires and prescribed fires" should only be changed to wildfires.



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- A member recommended Lindsay Boring from the Jones Ecological Research Center in Georgia as someone who could provide data on this. Also, the Nature Conservancy has estimates of number of acres that have been burned by prescribed burns in FL. CCS commented that the piece of forested landscape inventory called harvested wood products includes biomass for energy, non durable products (paper, fiber), and durable wood products (lumber).
7. Waste: The landfill gas flared estimates may be underestimated due to lack of data sources. A Member commented that new landfills getting built are likely going to be subject to flaring requirements. CCS indicated that for industrial landfills the default assumption is that their emissions are approximately 7% of MSW landfilling emissions based on national information. The combustion sub-sector includes medical waste incineration and residential open burning. Future growth rates are based on historic emissions growth. For industrial wastewater emissions, CCS did get data from FL DEP on meat and poultry, pulp and paper, and fruits and vegetables.
 8. Please send any data sources that would be helpful for updating the Inventory and Forecast to Rachel.anderson@pechan.com.
 9. Working Group Members are asked to start thinking about which policy options they would like to be involved in developing.
 10. Public comments: Dave Bruderly from Gainesville noted that some of the emittants are already being addressed by other agencies/organizations/programs in the state so actual levels might end up being lower than those forecasted, particularly the "low-hanging" fruit. He also commented that the state needs to focus on food vs. fuel, fiber, etc. issues. Tom Swihart from DEP noted that the Mulkey report has an assessment of carbon reduction for various options, including conservation tillage. Steve noted that for AFW-6 Soil Carbon Management, one of the measures that could be used is conservation tillage. Bob Krasowski commented that for AFW-5 Biomass Use for Steam and Heat Production we need to be specific on what kinds of biomass we are referring to. He also noted that for Bioreactor technology the biomass might be diverted to other uses before it can get to the bioreactor and noted there was no mention of an autoclave alternative for disposal of medical waste.

Next steps and agreements:

1. The next TWG meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 10th, from 10:00 am- 12:00 pm.
2. Next FL Action Team meeting is May 29th.
3. Dates for upcoming TWG conference calls:
 - a. June 10th, 10 am – 12 pm
 - b. June 19th, 10 am – 12 pm



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- c. June 23rd, 10 am – 12 pm
- d. June 24th, 10 am – 12 pm
- e. July 1st, 10 am – 12 pm
- f. July 15th, 10 am – 12 pm
- g. July 29th, 10 am – 12 pm
- h. August 12th, 10 am – 12 pm
- i. August 26th, 10 am – 12 pm