

GWTF Meeting, 7.24.08 WPPI

Among those in attendance –

Tia Nelson (BCPL), Roy Thilly (WPPI), Jeff Crawford (FCPC), Kristine Euclide (MGE), Jonathan Foley (UW-Madison), Bruce Nilles (Sierra Club), Dennis Dums (CUB), Steve Hiniker (1000 Friends), Todd Holschbach (TNC), Frank Erickson (SC Johnson), Margi Kindig (Citizen), Kris Krause (WE), Clay Nesler (Johnson Controls), John Pearse (GM), Kristin Ruesch (Rep. Phil Montgomery's office), Keith Reopelle (Clean Wisconsin), Annabeth Reitter (NewPage), Steve Kihm (ECW), Barbara Swan (Alliant), Michael Swenson (Xcel/NSP), Charlie Schrock (WPS), Lynn Wilson (Plum Creek), Eric Callisto (PSC), Tim Le Monds (PSC), Lori Sakk (PSC), John Shenot (PSC), Matt Frank (DNR), Al Shea (DNR), Caroline Garber (DNR), Allison Hellman (DNR), Ed Jepsen (DNR), Nick Sayen (DNR), Nina Plaushin (WPPI), George Edgar (WECC), Kathy Lipp (Alliant), Bill McClenahan (FCPC), Todd Stuart (WIEG), Peter Taglia (Clean Wisconsin), Scott Meske (MEUW), Karen Stevenson, Beth Bier (Sen. Miller's office), Noah Seligman (CWPB), Hans Noeldner, Dan Ebert

Welcome and Announcements:

- Nothing to report.

MGA Update:

- The Executive Committee met last week to talk about the status and progress of MGA Energy Initiatives. Differences in the policy positions of States are becoming more apparent as substantive details of each initiative develop, but this is to be expected.
- The Cap & Trade advisory group will meet again on Monday and Tuesday of next week in Milwaukee. Tuesday's meeting is open to the public.
- The Energy Efficiency advisory group is meeting in Kansas City today. This group is trying to more precisely define how they will interpret the agreed goal of meeting "at least 2 percent of regional annual retail sales of natural gas and electricity through energy efficiency improvements by 2015, and... an additional 2 percent... every year thereafter." A study to be done by the Energy Center of Wisconsin (ECW) and ACEEE will look at this question.

Presentation and Discussion of Final Report of the Task Force:

- Roy Thilly explained that the objective for this meeting is to approve the Final Report distributed to Task Force members and alternates on July 23, with the understanding that PSC staff will then do a final proofread and format of the report for publication, but will not make any substantive changes from what is approved today. The report will be finalized as quickly as possible but probably not before Monday, at which time it will be posted on the DNR web site. A short document outlining the substance of the report in bullet list format is being prepared for media and the public and should be available sooner.
- A summary report from the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) has been incorporated into the Final Report as Appendix D. The TAG will subsequently publish a more detailed, stand-alone technical report for the benefit of anyone desiring to understand technical details of the TAG's work.
- Each member will receive 10-15 hard copies of the published Final Report. This will probably take 2-3 weeks.

- Task Force members were provided with the first draft of the Final Report on July 16 and were asked to provide any comments in advance of today’s meeting. Several members commented. A revised draft was sent to members July 22, and then a re-revised final draft was sent July 23 with a few more changes based on comments from members. Most of the changes made from the first draft to the final draft were “clean-ups.” A few suggested changes were not made because they would have altered the substance of the strawman compromise.
- The policy templates were also fine tuned and posted on the web site for review by members. Members were notified each time a template was revised. All templates will be incorporated in the Final Report as Appendix E.
- Roy Thilly felt that the final draft of the Final Report did not differ in substance from the first draft, so instead of explaining in detail each revision he asked if there were any questions or comments.
- George Edgar, Co-Chair of the TAG, suggested that a graph and caption be added to support and visually demonstrate the statement at the beginning of section B.6. that “absent a Cap and Trade Program, adoption of policies recommended by the Task Force would enable the state to achieve only approximately half of its 2022 emissions reduction goal.” A graph included in previous presentations to the Task Force by John Larsen from WRI and/or the TAG would serve this purpose. Members agreed with this suggestion and it was approved.

Vote on Final Report:

- Pursuant to the policy established by the Task Force on voting, members absent for the vote will be deemed to be in support unless they commented prior to the meeting in opposition.
- A motion was made by Barbara Swan to approve the Final Report. The motion was seconded by Steve Hiniker. The motion passed, 26-3.
 - Members Voting Yes (20)
 - Tia Nelson (BCPL)
 - Roy Thilly (WPPI)
 - Jeff Crawford (FCPC)
 - Kristine Euclide (MGE)
 - Jonathan Foley (UW-Madison)
 - Emily Green *by proxy to Bruce Nilles* (Sierra Club)
 - Charlie Higley *by proxy to Dennis Dums* (CUB)
 - Steve Hiniker (1000 Friends)
 - Mary Jean Huston *by proxy to Todd Holschbach* (TNC)
 - Scott Johnson *by proxy to Frank Ericson* (SC Johnson)
 - Margi Kindig (Citizen)
 - Gale Klappa *by proxy to Kris Krause* (WE)
 - Rep. Phil Montgomery *by proxy to Kristin Ruesch*
 - C. David Myers *by proxy to Clay Nesler* (Johnson Controls)
 - Keith Reopelle (Clean Wisconsin)
 - Susan Stratton *by proxy to Steve Kihm* (ECW)
 - Barbara Swan (Alliant)
 - Michael Swenson (Xcel/NSP)
 - Larry Weyers *by proxy to Charlie Schrock* (IntegrYS/WPS)
 - Lynn Wilson (Plum Creek)

- Members Not Present in Support (6)
 - Forrest Ceel (IBEW)
 - Jon Geenen (USW)
 - Bill Oemichen (WFC)
 - Sen. Jeff Plale
 - Henry Steuber (GE)
 - John Vrieze (DBA/Vrieze Farms)
- Members Voting No (2)
 - Gary Malkus *by proxy to John Pearse* (GM)
 - Tom Scharff *by proxy to Annabeth Reitter* (NewPage)
- Members Not Present Who Expressed Opposition Prior to the Meeting (1)
 - Daniel Ariens (Ariens)
- The basis for the dissenting votes is described in the Final Report.

Concluding Remarks:

- Roy Thilly and Tia Nelson thanked all of the members of the Task Force, the work groups, and the TAG, including especially the chairs of those groups, as well as the state agency staff who contributed to this effort. Members were invited to a reception later in the day. Tia Nelson encouraged all members to be active in the “second phase” of this effort, i.e. to support the recommendations and work to ensure they are implemented.
- Kristine Euclide thanked the Co-Chairs on behalf of members.
- A public comment was offered by Hans Noeldner to the effect that the challenge of addressing climate change cannot be met by these policy recommendations without a huge change in public opinion and behavior. He believes that Task Force members need to do more to inform and engage and energize citizens to take action on a personal level.