

Chester County GHGRTF Information Committee Minutes

March 24, 2008

Attending: Mike Bullard, Vic Laubach, Heath Eddy, Gene Wilson

Both Victoria Webb, and Sarah Casper emailed prior to the meeting that they would be absent, and that their reviews are proceeding. Joel and Gerry are away.

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 PM at the CC GSB.

Three GHGR plans from other Counties were reviewed. A draft form for reviewing each plan was handed out.

Heath presented his very positive initial review of the King County, WA plan, from Feb 2007. Details will be available as the benchmarking process continues. In general, this plan begins with a description of the executive decisions in 2006 which created it, and proceeds with: the impacts of climate change in the northwest, a GHG inventory, and the goals and actions of GHG reduction. Goal: 80% reduction by 2050 (need the baseline here)

Mike presented his review of the Durham County, NC reduction plan from Sep 2007. Their plan consists of a GHG inventory, and a very modest plan to reduce the growth of GHGs. Details will be available as the benchmarking process continues. Goal: hold to 13% increase over baseline scenario by 2025. Also on their website is a useful document from ICLEI titled "Best Practices for Climate Protection" which received a brief review.

Gene presented his very positive review of Denver County's plan. The plan builds on Denver's Greenprint initiative from 2006 which set strong short term goals for 2011 and 2012. Central to this plan are ten fully developed goals, which together will bring the area's GHG emissions down to 1990 levels by 2020--avoiding the creation of two coal fired electric plants--and despite a rapidly growing population. Per capita emissions target for 2020 is considerably below 1990 levels. Details will be available as the benchmarking process continues.

Gene emphasized that Chester County is not ahead and not behind others in this important work, and that Chester County could provide leadership in PA.

The Committee adopted the short term goal of creating a two to four page "Summary of GHG Plans". This will serve both as an outline for further benchmarking, and as an educational document for Chester County policymakers.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM. Next meeting April 7 , 2008 room 237