

Maryland Commission on Climate Change

Mitigation Working Group

February 24, 2017 – 1:00pm - 3:00pm – MDE

Meeting Notes

Attendance: Ben Grumbles, Tad Aburn, Michael Powell, Anne Lindner, Tom Weissinger, Gerrit Knaap, Russ Dickerson (UMD), Christine Conn, Donald Boesch, Jim Strong, Chris Rice, Colleen Turner, Brian Hug (MDE), Tom Walz (DHCD), Michael Siers (Towson University), Todd Metcalfe (Towson University), Elliott Campbell (DNR), Jim Frazier (Michael Baker International), Lisa Nissley (MDE), Tim Wong (NIST), Ross Salawitch (UMD), Allison Ring (UMD), Michael Truax (MWCOG), Stephen Walz (MWCOG), Hampden Macbeth (Georgetown Climate Center), Kaley Laleker (MDE/LMA), Erick Thunell (MDE), Roger Thunell (MDE/ARMA), Doyeon Ahn (UMD), Joe Lutz (MDE), Liz Entwisle (MDE), Chris Beck (MDE), Jess Herpel (MDE), Luke Wisniewski (MDE), Patrick O'Rourke (MDE), Chris Hoagland (MDE), David Costello (IEER)

Phone: Megan Gould (EPA), Jim Doyle (Attorney), Mike Tidwell

1:00pm Meeting Begins

Agenda Item #1: Brief Introductions

- Tad called the meeting to order and introductions were given around the room
- Neither Mike Tidwell or Mike Powell (co-chairs) had any opening comments

Agenda Item #2: Approve 2017 Work Plan and Calendar

- Work Plan/Calendar was approved for submission to the MCCC Steering Committee at their next meeting with no amendments requested

Agenda Item #3: Enhanced GHG Emissions Inventory Speakers (presentations available online)

- Current GHG Inventory Process – Brian Hug, MDE
- On-Road Mobile Sources Inventory – Colleen Turner, MDOT
- Field Observations on Landfill Methane – Dr. Russ Dickerson, UMD

Agenda Item #4: Enhanced GHG Emissions Inventory Discussion

- Mike Tidwell brought up calculating “life-cycle” methane emissions, accounting for the emissions from natural gas extraction and processing out of State for what is consumed in State
 - MDE has already agreed to look into calculating this, however time and funding are an issue
- Discussion on the relative importance of methane emissions in radiative forcing
 - methane represents less than 3% estimated of Maryland’s inventory
 - methane’s global warming potential is higher over the short-term (approximately 10% MMtCO₂e adjusted inventory)
 - there may be some “low-hanging fruit” in the methane category that we can focus on
- Mike Tidwell and Russ Dickerson may work on inventory and estimations based on observations and other calculations – viable for a first order approximation
- Black carbon was raised, also noted that it is difficult to quantify
- Mike Powell requested any new ideas to reach the target, noting that the total inventory is pretty accurate
 - no proposals were made

Agenda Item #5: Other Business

- due to time constraints, the March meeting was not discussed
- Susan Payne provided an update on the Healthy Soils Initiative workshops, which have been scheduled, as well as the Healthy Soils Bill introduced in the General Assembly (HB 1063)

Agenda Item #6: Public Comment

- no public comments were voiced