

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Global Warming Task Force

FROM: Tia Nelson and Roy Thilly

DATE: February 20, 2008

SUBJECT: *Thank You! and Next Steps*

We are writing this memo to thank all of the members of the Governor's Task Force on Global Warming very much for their support, hard work and commitment to finding the common ground that enabled the Task Force to issue a strong Interim Report to the Governor recommending a number of important early action steps. We should all work together to help achieve prompt implementation of those recommendations. A special thanks goes out to our workgroup co-chairs, support staff and participants who spent many hours developing the policy recommendations in the Report.

We also have a substantial task before us to complete our assignment under Executive Order 191. We will be looking to everyone for their continued help and patience and in understanding each other's concerns related to various proposed policies and, through that understanding, finding creative ways to resolve differences to the maximum extent we are able. The more consensus that we can achieve, the better chance we will have of successfully addressing the issues presented by climate change in ways that benefit Wisconsin, our economy and our environment.

At our meeting on February 19, we asked that all policy templates be finalized no later than March 5. This includes any changes to the existing templates that have been posted and also is a final deadline for submission by workgroups of any new templates. In a couple instances, where a workgroup has not been able to reach agreement on a template, a Task Force member may present the template for consideration by the Task Force as a whole. However, we expect this procedure to be used only on a limited basis for matters that have already been raised and that the vast majority of the policies considered by the Task Force will come through the workgroup process.

During the month of March, we have asked the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to work closely with WRI and ICF to direct and oversee the modeling of policies, including the design of the various runs that were outlined at our meeting on February 19 and any additional sensitivity runs that are done. Wisconsin Public Service Corporation has submitted a letter outlining concerns about certain of the assumptions in the Reference Case and the TAG will be designing a sensitivity run to address those concerns. It is very important that any other members of the Task Force that have concerns about the Reference Case, or the modeling plan outlined on February 19, raise their issues with the TAG to consider now as modeling begins and sensitivity

runs are designed. We do not want to get into April, after we have spent substantial time and resources on modeling, and then have people raise issues that could have been handled much more easily and efficiently if the issues had been raised in a timely manner. For this reason, March 5 also is the deadline to submit modeling issues and concerns to the TAG. The TAG will continue to meet through March and consult with our workgroup chairs on modeling issues. All of these meetings are open and interested Task Force members are urged to attend.

The same point is true with respect to the policy templates that have been developed. Any comments that Task Force members have on those policies should be provided now, and as any changes are posted, so that comments can be considered by the workgroup chairs and the Task Force in a deliberate fashion in April.

We have asked the workgroup chairs to develop a list that will be distributed to Task Force members showing all policies that remain under consideration by the Task Force (those that will be modeled and those that will not be modeled), and to identify policy proposals where this was not a consensus within the workgroup either as to the policy itself or to particular elements of a particular proposal. Caroline Garber distributed what we have to date at our February 19 meeting. It is posted at <http://dnr.wi.gov/environmentprotect/gtfgw/modeling.html#Policy>. Once this task is complete, we will develop a procedure for the different viewpoints on controversial issues to be presented to the Task Force as a whole, so that the differences are understood, we can determine the actual extent of our differences and, through better understanding of concerns, seek ways to achieve a stronger consensus. This will be a main focus of our efforts in April.

Also, in April we will begin a discussion of identifying specific emission reduction goals for Wisconsin as required by Executive Order 191. Jonathan Pershing of WRI will make a presentation to the Task Force on April 4 on issues related to setting goals, including what has been done in other states and in proposed legislation, what the differences are and the origins and implications of those differences, so that we can discuss this issue for Wisconsin with a common background. We also have asked the TAG on April 4 to present the modeling results available at that time and to bring any modeling related issues forward to the Task Force as a whole, on which the TAG believes it needs direction.

Thank you again for all of your help and hard work.

Attachment: Letter to Governor