

Climate Change Integration Group  
Oregon State Capitol, Room 50  
Salem, OR  
June 27, 2006  
9 AM

**Present at Meeting:**

**Integration Group**

Ned Dempsey and Mark Abbott, Co-Chairs

Gail Achterman, Lisa Adatto, Michael Ashford for Mike Burnett, Rex Burkholder, Bob Doppelt, Christine Ervin, Jenny Holmes, Dan Keppen, John Ledger, Greg Miller, Jim Pendleton, Sara Severn and Dave Riley

**Ex Officio**

Ron Neilson

**Other Attendees**

Sven Anderson, Avalyn Taylor Cartwright, Marianne Fitzgerald, Michael Graine, Paul Klarin, Justin Klure, Jeff Kroft, Vicki McConnell, Dave Newman, Sam Sadler, Brent Searle, David Van't Hof and Anita Winkler

Chairs Mark Abbott and Ned Dempsey called the meeting to order and introduced themselves. Chair Abbott briefly went over the Charter from the Governor and stated the four issues at hand which are

1. Update and assessment of state governments response to original Advisory Group on global warming and their recommendations.
2. Look at economic risks and opportunities presented by Climate Change.
3. Looking at research & what research needs to be done.
4. Public education about the risks and uncertainties of Climate Change.

Chair Abbott introduced David Van't Hof, Governors Sustainability Advisor.

Mr. Van't Hof provided background information on the Global Warming Advisory Group. After the Governor was elected one of his first priorities was to try to develop the Climate Change Initiative to deal with the issue of global warming. His first step was to work with California and Washington on a three state initiative to look at climate change issues from a regional perspective. That was a very successful venture and the West Coast Climate Change Initiative has been going on ever since. The staff from the three state initiative developed a report that laid out areas of common interest and regional collaboration and recommended action. One recommendation was the tail pipe emission standards which the Oregon PUC passed permanent rule making adopting cleaner tail pipe standards for Oregon which triggered Washington's tail pipe standards. California already had a tail pipe standard so now we have a regional West Coast standard for tail pipes. Another area of focus was I-5 electrification truck stops to try to reduce idling in truck stops. The Governor is creating an Oregon Solutions Project around the issue. About 200 spaces will be completed this year. They are hoping that project will expand both in Oregon but also Washington and California. This will have a significant reduction of diesel emissions, which will result in a reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>. The third one is looking at commercial appliances and trying to develop increased standards for those. As of the last legislative session both Oregon and Washington passed an increase in standards for commercial appliances. From a policy perspective one of the recommendations is that the states develop carbon reduction goals. Oregon's goals are to arrest the increase of emissions by 2010, by 2020 get 10 percent below 1990 levels and long term by 2050 stabilizing around 75 percent of emission levels. These are aggressive goals but are consistent with policy goals around the world. Governor Schwarzenegger announced similar reduction goals for California. Washington is currently assessing whether or not they are going to move forward with reduction goals.

The Climate Change Integration Group is the follow on to the Governors Advisory Group, which he put together in 2004. Mr. Van't Hof also spoke about a number of issues which included the West Coast Green House Gas Warming Initiative (WCGGI), Carbon Allocation Task Force, goals for the Climate Change

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Integration Group (CCIG), looking at prioritizing mitigation recommendations, looking at adaptation, forward looking, renewable energy policy, RPS and biofuels.

Chair Abbott gave a scientific briefing on Climate Change in the Pacific Northwest. The briefing was a power point presentation on an overview of a report that the academy came out with last year, an analysis requested by congress. Chair Abbott spoke about the temperatures around the world and showed how the temperatures have increased worldwide. The academy reported that over the last 400 years it has significantly warmed. Over the last 25 years the land temperatures have increased mostly over the Euro-Asia continent and the higher latitudes of North America. The recent warming is due to human influences. While temperature is a concern, what we mainly worried about in the west is precipitation from both rainfall and snowfall. There is good evidence that there has been a general increase in the last 100 years probably about 20 percent, maybe more in some areas particularly northern Idaho and Eastern Washington. We are also very certain sea levels have risen over the last 100 years particularly in the Central and North Coasts. It is because of the loss of land ice that is causing the rise in sea level; Greenland seems to be changing more rapidly than we expected. There is concern with increasing sea levels and storms causing beach erosion. The snow pack in April has declined over the last 50 years. The peak snow pack seems to be coming earlier and earlier in the year. The consensus that comes out is that the average temperature has increased. The last decade was the warmest in the last 400 years. Chair Abbott stated that his hopes for today are to begin to think about what our work plan is, in particular sociological impacts.

Chair Ned Dempsey stated his visions and opportunities with the group. Chair Dempsey wants to view this from a sustainability point of view rather than scientific or environmental. He stated that this has more of a systems approach than a scientific or environmental point of view. He mentioned that we have started collecting data from the scientific and modeling issues, but we haven't really started to get the community and economic piece of it. The economics is an important piece that drives the behavior. There is still a lot more data and information that needs to be created and understood, but it needs to be understood from more than just the science piece of it.

Chair Abbott asked the members to introduce themselves and give a brief background.

Chair Abbott asked the public to introduce themselves.

Mr. Van't Hof thanked the members from the Governor for participating in the group

Chair Abbott started a discussion on the structure of the CCIG, it's process for decision making and setting the CCIG schedule. Chair Abbott stated that we need a new approach to these very complex problems. They are problems that involve an interface between global and regional decisions. There are decisions that involve economic, political, social decisions and values of the environment. There are decisions and issues that are going to involve people from a wide range of sectors: academia, government, the private sector and non-governmental organizations. There are also issues that involve a whole range of time scales. We need to think about bringing these groups together in a much more ongoing and continuing dialogue. There are several ways as a committee that we need to approach this. First off there needs to be a group to address the assessment of what the state did with the first set of recommendations and the missing recommendations that haven't been acted on yet. Secondly there will probably be a larger more science focused workshop for the entire committee and there maybe some task groups that are looking at specific issues such as water resources, transportation etc.

Chair Abbott opened the discussion for members of the group to comment on what they think the committee goals should be. After some discussion Chair Abbott stated that there seem to be at least four sectors that we might want to look at.

1. Serious transportation issues that might have both short term and long term investment decisions that are associated with it.

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2. Land use planning, it could be natural & built communities or it could be forest as well as around the metro area.
3. Water is something we are always going to have to look at.
4. Tourism/Leisure activities.

There are also some over arching issues that we need to look at.

1. Opportunity for fundamental change.
2. Education
3. Vulnerable communities and the opportunity to establish leadership.
4. Balance of values and regulation.
5. Governor's sustainability and the need for some concrete actions.

Chair Abbott announced that people can send comments both to Chair Dempsey and himself, or to the entire group. He then stated that the sense of scenario development is very important, which scenario's is an open issue. He acknowledged the fact that it's all volunteer labor and there's a limited amount of time. Looking at the purposes in the Charter; we will have a group to do item one, to assess what has been done and what needs to be done from the first group. Item two is the most important, to assess the current state of knowledge about the sensitivity, adaptive capacity and vulnerability of natural as well as human economic social systems to climate change in Oregon. This is where we give recommendations on how the state can be more resilient and adapt to unavoidable change. How we get to that answer and those recommendations is really what we've been talking about this afternoon. Chair Abbott asked the members to think about what their key concerns and issues are. At the next meeting we will tighten out what we talked about today. We will have the next meeting sometime in late July. Chair Abbott thanks everyone for their time and adjourns the meeting at 1:03 PM.