



**Climate Leaders GHG Inventory Protocol
and Goal Setting Workshop
June 10, 2003**

Update on DOE's 1605b Revision Process



President' s February 14th, 2002 Directive

- Established U.S Goal to reduce GHG intensity by 18% by 2012;
- Directed Improvements to the DOE GHG Voluntary Emissions Registry, including transferable credits for real reductions;
- Supported financial incentives;
- Challenged businesses to take action



Specifics:

- Directed the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, **to propose improvements to the current voluntary emissions reduction registration program** under section 1605(b) of the 1992 Energy Policy Act within 120 days. These improvements will **enhance measurement accuracy, reliability, and verifiability**, working with and taking into account emerging domestic and international approaches.
- Directed the Secretary of Energy to recommend reforms to **ensure that businesses and individuals that register reductions are not penalized under a future climate policy, and to give transferable credits** to companies that can show real emissions reductions.
- Directed the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy, to **develop accounting rules and guidelines for crediting sequestration projects**, taking into account emerging domestic and international approaches.



What is the Voluntary Greenhouse Gas Registry?

- Created by Energy Policy Act of 1992. Managed by DOE's Energy Information Administration (EIA).
- Records results of voluntary measures to reduce, avoid, or sequester greenhouse gas emissions.
- Currently about 220 U.S. companies and other organizations filed GHG reports, including agriculture and forestry.
- Current reporting guidelines are flexible, designed to encourage participation.



2002 Actions

- Set Goal: January, 2004.
- Established Interagency coordination process.
- Issued Federal Register Notice of Inquiry (May, 2002) for comments.
- 4-Agency letter to President with 10 key recommendations (July, 2002).
- Met with stakeholders; DOE hosted 4 public workshops in November, December 2002. USDA hosted 2 workshops in January 2003.



4-Agency (DOE, EPA, USDA, DOC) Recommendations

1. Develop fair, objective, and practical methods for reporting baselines, reporting boundaries, calculating real results, and awarding transferable credits for actions that lead to real reductions.
2. Standardize widely accepted, transparent accounting methods.
3. Support independent verification of registry reports.
4. Encourage reporters to report greenhouse gas intensity (emissions per unit of output) as well as emissions or emissions reductions.
5. Encourage corporate or entity-wide reporting.
6. Provide credits for actions to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as well as for actions to reduce emissions.
7. Develop a process for evaluating the extent to which past reductions may qualify for credits.
8. Assure the voluntary reporting program is an effective tool for reaching the 18 percent goal.
9. Factor in international strategies as well as State-level efforts.
10. Minimize transactions costs for reporters and administrative costs for the Government.



Crosscutting Themes

- Balance rigor with practicality; stringency with flexibility.
- Balance a voluntary approach with one that helps support President's goal (18% intensity reduction).
- Balance confidentiality with verifiability.
- Build on current 1605(b) and other voluntary and reporting programs.



Key Revision Areas

1. Emissions Inventories: Improving Accuracy, Reliability, and Verifiability.
2. Emissions Reductions: Characterizing and Measuring.
3. Verifying Emissions and Reductions; Recordkeeping.
4. Managing the GHG Registry.



Current Activity and Timeline

- Currently drafting revised general guidelines
 - Public comment period, (July-August).
- Drafting technical guidelines.
 - Release for public comments (July – November)
- EIA preparing new reporting forms.
- Issue revised reporting forms and instructions (January, 04).



Web Addresses & Points of Contact

<http://www.pi.energy.gov/enhancingGHGregistry>

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