



The Climate Registry

MEMBER'S-ONLY CALL Summary September 10, 2008

Introduction: State of the Registry

Gina McCarthy

Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

- This call will update organizations on The Registry's recent and future efforts, as well as on regional and possible federal GHG reporting programs.
- The Registry's reporting practices are the standard for robust, accurate and transparent data collection. Its members represent a wide array of industries.
- The Registry is assisting state and federal mandatory programs by providing a transparent and accurate accounting source for greenhouse gas emissions.
- The Registry's sets the standards for voluntary reporting through its program. Its support of mandatory programs includes assistance in the implementation of the reporting practices of these programs.
- The Registry has been named in all recent federal bills as the basis for federal reporting.
- The Registry's future plans include expanding member services, writing more industry specific protocols and preparing for federal programs.
- **New change in nomenclature:*
 - Reporters are now **Members**
 - Members (Board of Directors) are now **Directors**

Update: Western Climate Initiative (WCI)

Stephen Owens

Director, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

- WCI has 11 partners (Seven US states and four Canadian provinces)
- WCI members are required to be members of The Climate Registry because:
 - Currently, WCI requires mandatory reporting as a part of their program for:
 - Entities that emit over 10,000 metric tons of CO₂e must report
 - Entities that emit over 25,000 metric tons of CO₂e would be in the cap sector
 - The WCI template for reporting is consistent and complimentary with The Registry's
 - High-quality, transparent, accurate data such as that collected by the Registry is essential to create a cap and trade system
- WCI will be releasing a cap and trade program design document the week of September 22, 2008
- Possible Recognition of early actions
 - Data must be verifiable and transparent
 - Data will be able to cross reference with The Registry

- The more reporters report, the more early actions will be reflected and recorded when regulations are in place.
- Offset programs can only work if there is high quality data; recognize The Registry as the location for best practices and good data.
- www.westernclimateinitiative.org has more information and updates

Update: British Columbia

Steve Anderson

Executive Director, Climate Change & Intergovernmental Relations, Climate Action Secretariat

- British Columbia has had mandatory reporting since 2005.
- All facilities that emit the equivalent of 100,000 tons CO₂e per year are required to submit a report.
- The government is revisiting reporting program and expects to see different reporting thresholds for different sectors.
- BC sees that The Registry is the place for provincial/national/international climate change work to come together.

Update: Midwest

Doug Scott

Director, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

- Six Governors and Manitoba have signed onto the Midwest Accord. Other states and a Canadian province have signed on as observers.
- Agreeing to establish a Midwestern greenhouse gas reduction program as well as a working group to provide recommendations regarding the implementation of the Accord.
- Following an organizational process of committees, much like WCI's.
- Their goal is to have more interaction between participating states in order to implement a cap and trade system.
- Will work closely with The Registry and follow its protocols.

Update: RGGI

Gina McCarthy

Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

- Ten state initiative, includes New England and Mid Atlantic states that pre-dates creation of The Registry.
 - All RGGI states are Registry members
- Utilities that emit 25 megawatts or higher are capped and eligible to participate in a regional cap and trade program.
- RGGI is now primarily looking at an auction process:
 - 70 percent of allowances will be auctioned
 - September 25th will be the first auction
 - Proceeds from these auctions will go to state green energy programs like renewable energy
- Some states have mandated reporting beyond the power sector
- RGGI now has plans to look at other sectors
- RGGI working on voluntary mandates to reduce emissions

Summary of Questions and Answers

Will federal programs make regional programs out of date?

- With federal mandates there will still be roles for the states and regions in implementing and regulating emissions reporting
- All regulation work will help inform the federal debate moving forward
- Regulatory approaches vary significantly
- The Registry is a North American program whose standards will help to avoid duplication and double reporting of emissions
- Stipulations of what federal regulation will entail are still unknown

How will The Registry's program work with one introduced by the EPA?

- The last board meeting included heads of Environment Canada and the EPA
- The Registry is in touch with the EPA and Environment Canada daily
- New federal reporting bill names The Registry

What is happening with national legislation regarding reporting emissions data?

- The House Energy and Commerce committee is looking at a federal reporting bill. Currently The Registry does not know the timing, but Representatives Inslee and Baldwin are working on a reporting bill that specifically references The Climate Registry in relation to the protocols that EPA should use in drafting regulations. The bill encourages EPA to take into account the work done by The Climate Registry in the development of its GHG reporting rule.
- In the Senate, Senator Klobuchar introduced a Carbon counter bill in May 2007, which would have established a federal GHG registry and included references to The Registry. The Klobuchar bill eventually became Title 1 of the Lieberman-Warner bill, which proposed a national cap-and-trade program and included specific references to The Registry in relation to its protocols and as a source of guidance for EPA. Senator Klobuchar is currently planning to introduce a substitute bill to replace her original Carbon Counter bill to establish a federal GHG registry.
- Mostly all eyes are on the EPA. A draft GHG reporting rule is due at the end of September but EPA has indicated that the September date is "aggressive".

Why does it take so long for protocols to be developed?

The Registry's protocols are consensus based. To ensure that the needs of all stakeholders are met, time is allowed for public comment and revisions.

How many verifiers does The Registry have?

The Registry has 33 verification bodies undergoing the first round of ANSI's pilot program in order to become accredited verifiers by the end of this year. Starting in January, new verification bodies may be accredited on a rolling basis.

How does The Registry relate to 1605(b)?

The Registry's program is voluntary, and requirements are similar to the top tier of those of 1605(b). A main difference between The Registry and 1605(b) is that The Registry requires third party verification for all submitted emissions data. The Registry's goal is to create reporting continuity so that all emission reports submitted to The Registry will also be able to be sent over to other reporting programs such as 1605(b). You can access a comparison of greenhouse gas reporting programs in the Reference section of our website under Program Comparisons- <http://www.theclimateregistry.org/reference.html>.

Other than the protocols The Registry is working on, what additional protocols can be expected in the near future?

The Registry will be meeting with its Board of Directors in June 2009 and identify the most pressing needs. Some of the likely candidates include the forestry, iron and steel sectors.

What is The Registry doing to develop further guidance on electricity emissions?

As a part of the Electric Power Sector protocol development process The Registry will consider providing guidance to power providers that will direct them to create generator-specific emission factors.

Can you enter in facilities before you have annual energy use data?

Yes, The Registry encourages Reporters to enter facility and other administrative information into CRIS before emissions activity data is ready. For more information on how to use CRIS, please sign up for one of our on-line trainings through the calendar section of our website- <http://www.theclimateregistry.org/calendar.html>

Can The Registry match members with a verification body?

While we have a list of verification bodies listed on our website and are planning on developing a message board, we leave it up to reporters to contract and hire their own verifiers.