

**MPCA's Charge to the Stakeholder Work Group
for the
Stakeholder Process to Achieve Greenhouse Gas Reduction, Energy Conservation and
Environmental Protection through Integrated Solid Waste Management**

Purpose/Mission: Develop the elements of a plan based on the recommendations from the Minnesota Climate Change Advisory Group (MCCAG). To ensure efficiency and effectiveness and a workable plan coming out of the process, the MPCA is recommending the following goal:

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2025 through integrated solid waste management in the four population centroid regions of Minnesota by 52.5 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.

The plan should attempt to lay out options for greenhouse gas reduction in a manner that ranks the recommendations by largest potential for reduction and assesses their achievability.

Membership: Fifteen to 20 individuals that represent the diversity of stakeholders in solid waste management in Minnesota, selected by the Minnesota Environmental Initiative, will serve on the Work Group.

Leadership: Chaired by Ron Nargang and managed by the Minnesota Environmental Initiative. Additionally, a Planning Team comprised of four Work Group members, including one MPCA representative, will provide further leadership consultation.

Other Input: Additional stakeholders will be invited to provide input to the Work Group at three public Stakeholder Input Group meetings at appropriate times during the process.

MPCA Role: Through a contract, the MPCA is providing funding to MEI to manage the process and incorporate the group's recommendations into a final report to the MPCA Commissioner. The MPCA will also provide a member to serve on the Work Group and Planning Team, as well as staff and a technical consultant to support the process.

Timing: Over a 7-month period, beginning in December 2008. Recommendations will be submitted to the MPCA by June 2009.

Anticipated Outcomes/Results: Stakeholders will develop recommendations for a plan that:

- Identifies changes in the current way waste is generated, collected and managed to achieve greenhouse gas reduction or renewable energy goals;
- Identifies policy or legislative actions that will help meet greenhouse gas reduction or renewable energy goals;
- Identifies institutional, financial or other barriers and recommends strategies to overcome the barriers;
- Identifies those parties who can effectuate change to accomplish the greenhouse gas reduction and renewable energy production goals.

If time permits, the following plan elements will also be discussed and developed:

- Timelines and mileposts toward meeting the goals;
- How existing resources could be reallocated to meet the goals;
- New resource needs and possible sources to accomplish goals;
- Other ways of accomplishing goals without infusion of new resources.

Additional Considerations:

Because the MCCAG goals were based on a broader definition of solid waste, and the statutory goals for recycling are based on Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), the Process should investigate solutions for both MSW and non-MSW. It is proposed, however, that the plan should address the different waste streams separately and that MSW remain a priority.

The stakeholder group should explore transportation as it relates to managing solid waste and factor in greenhouse gases produced from transporting waste, recyclables to market, virgin materials, etc. as it determines which management options are preferred for GHG reduction.

The climate change crisis is a global one; therefore, the Process need not discuss geographic boundaries for greenhouse gas reduction.