Carbon Resources Sub-Committee
Meeting Minutes

Prepared By: Patricia Scanlan
Date: October 18, 2011

This memorandum provides meeting minutes from the Water Environment Federation (WEF) Carbon Resources Sub-Committee meeting on Tuesday, 18 October 2011 at WEFTEC, Los Angeles, CA.

Meeting called to order at 8:30 by Chair Patricia Scanlan with a final attendance of 14 people.

1. **Update of Activities**

    a. Carbon Workshop at WEFTEC, "Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Methodologies and Inventorying for Biosolids Treatment", was held on Saturday, 15 October. Attendance was lower than expected, but the attendees gave very positive feedback for the presentations and the information discussed at the workshop. A special thanks to Bob Forbes (CH2MHill) who provided an unscheduled presentation on CHEAPET. Workshop presenters included the following:
        1. Patricia Scanlan (Black & Veatch)
        2. Pat Coleman (AECOM)
        3. Bill Barber (AECOM)
        4. Peggy Foran (The Climate Registry)
        5. Andrew Carpenter (Northern Tilth)
        6. Mark Gould (CDM)
        7. Chris Peot (DC Water)
        8. Steve Tarallo (Black & Veatch)

    b. Carbon regulations article – was published in the September issue of WE&T. Contributors included Laurie Ford (Greater Vancouver Metro Vancouver, Bob Dominak (formerly of NEORSD), Bill Barber (AECOM), Tony Koodie (Black & Veatch), Ajay Kasarabada (Black & Veatch), Patricia Scanlan (Black & Veatch).

    c. **Conversion of the CTF into an RBC Sub-Committee**. The Carbon Task Force was officially converted to an RBC Sub-Committee, with Jackie Kepke (EBMUD) as the Vice-Chair. The mission and goals statements are posted on the WEF subcommittee website:

http://www.wef.org/Members/page_committees_details.aspx?id=10929

2. **New Business**
    a. Ned Beecher has announced the completion of an electronic survey to help identify information gaps, state and/or regional organizations that are coordinating carbon emission tracking, outreach and education preferences (i.e., webinars, TPUs, workshops, etc.). The survey is currently available to all members of the Carbon Resource Sub-Committee at: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9NDMTDH. Prior to directing the survey to all RBC members, we are requesting that sub-committee members complete the survey and submit. Please note any issues or concerns you have with the survey and send them to Patricia Scanlan (scanlanp@bv.com) or Ned Beecher (ned.beecher@nebiosolids.org). Please complete your survey inputs by 31 October 2011. Any issues or comments submitted by sub-committee members will be addressed prior to disseminating the survey to the RBC membership at large.

3. **Information Sharing:** During the meeting, the following technical items were discussed:
    a. Kris Flaig and Jackie Kepke presented information on the California Cap and Trade program. The revised draft is being presented on Friday, 21 October for an "up or down" vote by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Suggested modifications to the draft excluded N_2O and CH_4 liquid stream treatment process emissions and waste-to-energy emissions. However, based on the revised draft, these emissions are not specifically listed among those biogenic emissions that are excluded from compliance obligation. Since the regulation focuses on combustion emissions, this is likely not a critical issue.

        While not directly related to GHG emissions, Kris and Jackie also discussed the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) decision to develop three different categories or "buckets" of renewable energy sources for the Renewable Energy Credit (REC) system used by utilities to comply with the state's Renewable Portfolio System (RPS) requirements. Recent legislation established limits on the percentage of renewable energy that can be included from each category in an energy utility's portfolio. At this time, renewable energy from POTWs is expected to be in the 3rd (or lowest) category, which is likely to negatively impact the potential value of RECs from POTWs.

    b. John Willis announced that ICLEI wastewater protocols were in the process of peer review as part of the development of ICLEI's Community Protocol; however, a number of ICLEI staff have been furloughed due to funding issues. A discussion of CH_4 emissions from biogas flares followed.

c. Various GHG tools were discussed. Information and locations are as follows:

1. Bob Forbes announced that the WERF CHEAPET tool was available at the WERF website for WERF subscribers: http://www.werf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Search&Template=/CustomSource/Research/ResearchProfile.cfm&ReportId=OWSO4R07c&ID=OWSO4R07c
   He also mentioned that there have been some compatibility issues for some users.
2. The CCME BEAM model is available at: http://www.ccme.ca/ourwork/waste.html?category_id=137
3. Sydney water has developed a model that will be licensed. Little additional information is available at this time; however, this sub-committee will be contacting Lauren Fillmore (WERF) to request information during her pending meetings with Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA).
4. Bob Forbes announced that the Global Water Research Coalition is expected to publish its "State of the Knowledge" in the near future.
5. UC Berkley is currently developing a tool for GHG estimating. More information is at http://west.berkeley.edu/
6. The City of Los Angeles has developed a tool for city-wide GHG emissions. The tool has been reviewed by MWH and is expected to be made public in 2012. The LA tool differs from some of the other available tools since it is focused on developing information for baseline and annual reporting, rather than emission projections.

The meeting ended at 9:30 am. The next meeting will be held at the Residuals and Biosolids Conference in March, 2012 (Raleigh, NC).