



AN ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY LAW PRACTICE

Below is a bullet-point outline of the new work plans approved on February 27, 2009, by the Pennsylvania Climate Change Action Committee (CCAC) for additional study by the CCAC subcommittees as part of the development of the Pennsylvania Climate Change Action Plan. Under Act 70, the Department of Environmental Protection is required to submit the Plan to the Governor and the General Assembly by October 9, 2009.

The outline is organized by subcommittee. The CCAC subcommittees are currently scheduled to make final work plan recommendations to the full CCAC by April 30, 2009. During this time, the CCAC subcommittees may take additional comment on the work plans from outside “experts” as part of a public comment portion of each subcommittee meeting. If you wish to provide input to a CCAC subcommittee on the GHG work plans, or if you have any questions about this alert, please contact Todd D. Kantorczyk at tkantorczyk@mgkflaw.com; 484-430-2359 or Bryan P. Franey at bfraney@mgkflaw.com; 484-430-2308.

Industry and Waste

- Promote waste-to-energy projects
- Encourage expanded energy recovery from mine methane
- Require more wastes in recycling stream
- Expand use of waste-to-energy sludge digesters
- Provide incentives for advanced iron and steelmaking

Electricity Generation Transmission and Distribution

- Provide incentives for utilities to promote energy efficiency and decouple from rates
- Examine potential for GHG emission reductions if PA was to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)
- Grant solar thermal generation parity with solar PV under Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard

- Examine battery backup for load shaving and daily operations
- Explore use of “small scale, distributed” nuclear generation

Residential/Commercial Subcommittee

1. Setting large building goals
 - Adopt 2030 challenge
 - Establish green building standard for new construction
 - Retro commission all PA government buildings and provide incentives for private buildings
 - Promote use of historical buildings and local products/materials
2. Critical building goals
 - Implement “Relight PA” program by updating lighting fixtures
 - Implement “Green roof PA” program
 - Increase lighting efficiency
 - Establish appliance standards
 - Promote “Turn it off” campaign
 - Require energy recovery where outdoor air discharged from all new buildings and from all existing buildings by 2015
 - Provide incentives/requirements for combined heat and power (CHP) at buildings
 - Promote geothermal energy use at buildings
 - Promote micro solar and micro wind
 - Save water/save energy programs
3. Critical building labels/sunshine laws
 - Require home “MPG” related to energy use
 - Require building “utility labels” that provide actual energy usage
 - Require energy audits as part of real estate transfers
 - Require a GHG analysis for any project that receives PA funds

4. Education

- Promote sustainability education
- Training building operators
- Implement green campus initiative

5. Other

- Explore 4-day work week
- Examine energy efficient mortgages
- Establish PA local and state government climate change clearinghouse
- Allow tax credits for efficiency and effectiveness upgrades

Land Use/Transportation

- Utilize existing public transportation
- Increase participation in efficient transportation
- Examine possible improvements in freight transport
 - Require more efficient trucks
 - Promote rail transport in lieu of truck transport
- Obtain more federal support for efficient people transport
- Obtain more federal support for efficient freight transport (especially rail transport)
- Enhanced support for smart growth and transport policies
- Utilize existing land use policies, such as the Keystone Principles
- Develop new land use policies
- Encourage telecommuting

Agriculture & Forestry

- Promote Woodnet (production and purchase of local wood products)
- Enhance forest land protection/avoid conversion
- Promote use of durable wood products
- Examine “food shed” development strategy
- Explore use of next generation biofuels/winter biofuel crops
- Sequester carbon through forest management
- Utilize management intensive grazing
- Require soil sequestration through non till agriculture (80% by 2020)
- Promote manure digesters and other farm based alternative energy
- Explore community and district scale biomass combined heat and power generation
- Promote reforestation, afforestation and regeneration
- Promote regenerative farming practices
- Establish urban forestry programs
- Explore wood to cellulosic ethanol technology

DEP New Work Plans

- Low carbon fuel standard
- Implement Act 129 (Public Utility legislation)
- Study and reduce statewide load growth
- Soil sequestration through no till agriculture
- Implement Act 1 – Energy Independence Strategy
- Increase energy efficiency at government buildings
- Promote water conservation
- Reduce electricity transmission and distribution losses