

**CCFC Core Stakeholder Meeting
Centralina COG Offices
September 19, 2007
11:00 – 1:00 pm**



ATTENDEES:

Mike Keziah
Dan Nuckolls
Rod Trump
Grady Truett
Marcie Smith
Larry Howell
Larry Lane
Robert Forester
Robin Forester
Alan Giles
Jim Burke
Johnny Wear
Mark Englander
Jim Hollingsworth
Jason Wager
Sarah Niess

MINUTES

Welcomes and Introductions

Biofuels Production Action Steps:

Sarah reviewed what was covered at last month's meeting on biofuels production in NC. The Core Stakeholder Group at their July meeting had asked for Sarah and Jason to bring back a proposal of action steps the coalition could take to support production efforts in the region and state. Sarah passed around a draft of these action steps (see below) and asked for comments. The Group gave positive feedback overall. Rod discussed grant funds that he has that could be used for production activities – small scale. He needs to justify any production project to the college on both costs and the end product – for example, what can they do with a production project in terms of curriculum. Jason identified that there could be a possible connection with Gaston College and said he would follow up with Rod offline.

- *Generate guidance documents for local producers that could be utilized state-wide*
- *Promote quality control and related issues for all biofuels – including coordinating with NC BioNetwork BioEd Center to share the biodiesel quality workshop video and transcript*

- *Investigate new biodiesel production outlets for waste grease of local governments and utilities*

Hickory Eco-park Tour

Laura Mundell set up a tour at the Hickory Eco-park – Grady, Marcie, Ray Maxwell, Mark Boulic (Economic Development) and Jason attended. The Eco-park is using methane from a nearby landfill for electricity. There are two electricity plants located on a county site. The organizers of the park sought out users/producers that made sense to make the best use of waste products. Plans to have more uses and expand park. County has been purchasing lands around the landfill to fill out “campus.”

Participants on the tour had the following feedback:

Grady: Amount of electricity was huge – impressive. Also using methane for heat source at a reduced rate for companies (lumber company). Also giving back to power grid and getting a large pay back. Netting around \$200,000 per year.

Marcie: Every landfill has a buffer zone required by regulations - here in buffer they have planted crops for ASU to do biodiesel study on feedstocks; Harvesting of methane interesting to Gaston County; C&D recycling impressive.

Grady recapped trip to Raleigh to discuss biodiesel plant/fuel for schools proposal: 25M gallons of diesel are used by schools in NC – recent legislation requires that 2% needs to be biodiesel; Marcie described methane production from a landfill and possible uses; Gaston County landfill is starting to have methane issues and easy fix is flare but wanted to do something else – use methane for biodiesel and electricity

Upcoming Dates:

Fleet Manager Workshop – November 9th
State Fair – October 12-21

CFAT Awardees

Clean Fuel Advanced Technology grants announced at the end of August. Three recipients are from the region: City of Gastonia (retrofits for waste haulers); Town of Cornelius (neighborhood electric vehicles); Thomas Petroleum (dispensing equipment)

Air Quality Update (Alan Giles)

This past summer has had very poor air quality. To conform to the 8-hour ozone standard need to have 4th highest ozone day values be below 85ppb on average – in 2007 the readings were between 93-96 ppb around region. In order to achieve conformity by 2010 the region would need to have ozone values at levels that have not been seen since the 1990s. Unlikely achieve the numbers needed in next 2 years to meet standard.

Robert Forester – Onyx

Robert and Robin Forester came to the meeting to give an overview of the air quality and cost benefits for propane mowers. The Onyx products are both EPA and CARB certified technologies. Other information about the Onyx mowers include:

- \$2,000 incremental cost of machine compared to gasoline equivalent
- 2-year warranty
- technology patented

Dan: some concern over longevity of equipment – looking for a pilot project to try out technology.

Following lunch the group traveled to Charlotte Energy Solutions and heard about Segways and the Segway program at the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department.