



State of Illinois
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

**ILLINOIS GREEN GOVERNMENTS COORDINATING COUNCIL
QUARTERLY MEETING**

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

**1:00-2:30pm, Friday, December 12, 2008
Department of Agriculture Building, State Fairgrounds, Springfield**

➤ **Attendance**

Representatives from the following Council member agencies were in attendance:

- Lt. Governor's Office
- Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- Department of Central Management Services
- Capital Development Board
- Illinois Department of Agriculture
- University of Illinois
- Governor's Office of Management and Budget
- Department of Transportation
- Department of Corrections
- Department of Human Services
- Department of Public Health
- State Board of Education
- Board of Higher Education

➤ **Approval of minutes from the September 30, 2008 Quarterly Meeting**

The Council unanimously approved the September 30, 2008 Quarterly Meeting minutes with no changes. (Minutes are posted online at <http://www.standingupforillinois.org/pdf/meetings/20080930GGCCminutes.pdf>.)

➤ **Update from the Lt. Governor's Office**

○ **GGCC-related legislation**

▪ **Green Governments Illinois Act (PA 95-0657) implementation**

Kate Tomford (LTG) reported on the implementation of the Green Governments Illinois Act (PA 95-0657), which was enacted in October 2007 and established the Council in Illinois statute. The act required all state agencies to form sustainability committees, develop sustainability plans, and submit annual reports to the Council. Agencies submitted their plans last June and their reports last August. The Lt. Governor's Office then compiled all of the agency reports into a single annual report, which was due to the Governor by September 1. The 2008 GGCC Annual Report is available online at <http://www.standingupforillinois.org/uploads/2008GGCCreport.pdf>. This winter, the Lt. Governor's Office

will be working on revising and improving the GGCC website, Go Green Planning Pro, and online resources to better assist state agencies in their sustainability efforts.

- **Green Cleaning Schools Act (PA 95-0084) implementation**

Kate Tomford (LTG) reported on the implementation of the Green Cleaning Schools Act (PA 95-0084), which was passed in August 2007 and tasked the Council with developing guidelines and specifications. The Council worked with interested stakeholders to develop the guidelines and established those as administrative rules that went into effect on May 9, in time for most schools' next procurement cycle. The guidelines are available online at http://www.standingupforillinois.org/green/school_cleaning.php. This site also has a one-page fact sheet, frequently asked questions, and a list of the products qualified for use. A new product on that list is the Illinois Correctional Industries' Envirosafe Peroxide Multi Cleaner, which was recently certified by Green Seal. The Green Cleaning Schools Act requires the Council to amend the guidelines on an annual basis, so the Council and stakeholders will convene in January 2009 (exact date TBD) to conduct a review and begin the amendment process, if amendments are necessary.

- **New legislation**

Kate Tomford (LTG) reported that some Council subcommittees are working on draft legislation for the upcoming session of the General Assembly; no details to report at this time.

- **GGCC symposiums**

- **Sustainable Cities Symposium (October 24, 2008 in Lisle)**

Jamie Campbell (LTG) reported on the Sustainable Cities Symposium held at Benedictine University in Lisle on Friday, October 24. This is the third year that the Council has hosted this symposium, and it attracted a record attendance of nearly 250 people. For the first time, Council staff sent out an RFP for presenters, which allowed pre-screening of speaking topics and slide content. Presenters covered topics including state energy efficiency incentives, renewable energy installations, green building, smart growth, alternative transportation, rain barrels, and recycling. Symposium presentations are posted online at: <http://www.standingupforillinois.org/green/symposium.php>.

- **Sustainable Schools Symposium (February 27, 2009 in Joliet)**

Kate Tomford (LTG) reported that Illinois was one of six states to receive a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation to conduct a study on school siting policies. The grant activities involve writing a report on state policies that support or hinder sustainable school siting, hosting public forums on the topic of school siting, and hosting a Sustainable Schools Symposium to release the report and address school siting and other sustainability issues. The Sustainable Schools Symposium will take place on Friday, February 27 at Joliet Township High School's Central Campus. Council staff will send an announcement about online registration in January.

- **GGCC compacts**

Jamie Campbell (LTG) reported that 50 universities and colleges are now members of the Sustainable University Compact; half of those have joined since August 2007. Over 140 K-12 schools and schools districts are now members of the Sustainable Schools Compact; all of those have joined since the compact's launch in January 2008. Both compacts include 12 environmental practices that educational institutions may pledge to pursue and achieve by 2010. For more information on the compacts and members, visit http://www.standingupforillinois.org/green/compact_cu.php for higher education and <http://www.standingupforillinois.org/green/compact.php> for K-12 schools.

➤ **GGCC subcommittee reports**

○ **Energy & Climate Change**

Donald Barnes (CMS) reported that the subcommittee has been discussing metrics for energy use and climate change and how to track those metrics. The subcommittee has supported more discussion and collaboration between IEPA and CMS to leverage some of the utility data and to condense it into a manageable set of information for documenting activity for the Chicago Climate Exchange. The information will be used not only for the Climate Exchange, but also to enable measuring how efficiently state buildings are operating.

Through small test groups, CMS has been able to follow some of the energy efficiency advances that the state is pursuing. For example, data show that temperature controls have been able to reduce operational costs and natural gas usage. Each state agency deserves credit for these gains, because once the policy is established, implementation is up to the operators and facilities managers within the individual agencies.

Goals for the new year are to continue determining an overall strategy for tracking energy metrics and getting them into a manageable, user-friendly system that can inform and assist state agencies.

Kevin Greene (IEPA) reported that the state joined the Chicago Climate Exchange under a directive from Gov. Blagojevich. This commits the executive agencies to reduce carbon emissions by 6% by 2010. IEPA is currently putting together a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory including state buildings and fleet operations. They are currently about two-thirds of the way toward getting all data compiled, with data coming from electricity and natural gas purchases. They are still waiting for some data from Ameren and Peoples Gas. CMS is also finalizing some data that will help calculate emissions from fleet operations. IEPA has hired a consultant to help with the inventory.

The first emissions reduction target is for 2007: a 1.5% reduction from baseline. Once the baseline is complete, IEPA will quickly calculate 2007 emissions. If 2007 emissions are not 1.5% lower than the baseline, the state will have to buy emissions reduction credits from other members of the exchange who exceeded their emissions reduction targets and are selling credits. These calculations should be complete in mid- to late-January.

○ **Green Buildings**

Lisa Mattingly (CDB) reported that CDB has developed green building guidelines for state construction projects. Anything over 10,000 square feet will be LEED Silver. Anything under 10,000 square feet will be designed to LEED Silver level but will not necessarily require certification. There is a variance process for cases where LEED certification would cause a financial hardship to the project or impact the historic nature of the project.

To date, the state has only one completed project, which is at Heartland Community College, but about 11 other projects are in various stages of design or construction. For many of those projects, the design money was available, but the projects are waiting on capital for the construction phase. A couple of Military Affairs projects are moving forward because they have federal funding. One is at Shiloh Readiness Center and the other at Mt. Vernon Armed Forces Center, which has a large geothermal system. Both will be designed to the LEED Silver level.

CDB and the subcommittee are looking at smaller renovation and retrofit projects that can be done more quickly than new construction, i.e., more maintenance-oriented projects such as green roofs, white roofs, efficiency in HVAC systems, and geothermal systems. Several geothermal projects are underway: Heartland had one as part of their new building, and Lincoln's Tomb will also have one. It is currently in design and has funding from the Clean Energy Community Foundation.

Subcommittee members are looking at what other states are doing on retrofit projects and determining what can be adopted by Illinois. CDB is also considering which state projects might be able to tap into DCEO's EEPS funding source. Many related projects started before the EEPS program, so they are ineligible, but for new projects, EEPS funding may be an option.

○ Green Purchasing

Carol Pinkerton (CMS) reported that several different agencies are participating in green purchasing conference calls: DHS, EPA, DCEO, CMS, and Lt. Governor's Office. She encouraged other state agencies to join in the subcommittee's meetings, to increase communication among agencies, exchange ideas, and share resources. Alternatively, agencies should let the purchasing subcommittee know of their needs, because most likely, other agencies share those needs.

The subcommittee has two major goals. One is to make master contracts more sustainable. The subcommittee is doing this by looking at contracts that are coming due in the next six months and finding opportunities to incorporate sustainable criteria for commodities on contract, always giving attention to the cost factor, i.e., looking for competitive products that are not only sustainable but also cost-effective.

Individually, subcommittee members are conducting research related to those products. CMS has a research arm, called Knowledge Management, which is available for agencies for topics related to procurement. Research can be very time-consuming, so Knowledge Management can provide assistance.

When looking at greener procurement, another objective is to include small businesses in Illinois. In the future, green issues and sustainability concerns will be a big economic factor in our state and country, so giving an impetus to small businesses, Correctional Industries, or state use workshops is part of the subcommittee's objective.

The subcommittee's second major goal is to look at the laws on the books right now and identify changes that need to be made. Rick Hughes discussed this during the morning panel. The state is bound by statute to its traditional role of purchasing the cheapest item, but the state should also consider the total cost of an item – not just the initial purchase, but also the costs of energy consumption during use, the disposal costs, and other costs throughout a product's life cycle. Disposal costs may be costs that the vendors pass along if they are required to dispose of products responsibly at the end of their useful life.

A member of the audience asked whether businesses owned by veterans could receive the same type of assistance as small businesses. Carol explained that a veterans group could look into getting certified as a small business or under the business enterprise program. Members of both of those programs are given preference on state contracts.

Kate Tomford (LTG) added that the subcommittee is planning to conduct outreach through the regularly scheduled meetings for State Purchasing Officers (SPOs). These meetings occur about every six weeks, and the next ones are coming up in late January and early March. Subcommittee members have invited an EPP expert from Massachusetts to speak to SPOs at their March meeting. Part of the subcommittee's effort is to help SPOs recognize that CMS does have green products on master contracts, and those are the products they should look to first, particularly if the green products are cost-effective for the agency.

○ Recycling & Waste Management

Chip Gass (CMS) reported that the recycling subcommittee has had a number of recent accomplishments. First, plastic recycling was established on the Capitol Complex, which includes the Capitol Building, the Howlett Building, and the Stratton Building. This was a collaborative between the Secretary of State's Office, CMS, and DCEO's recycling division, which helped get a vendor for the service. CMS BOSSAP is conducting an assessment of recycling services to determine their availability and feasibility in different locations statewide. The subcommittee is also planning to survey all of the state agencies' facilities managers to determine what they are actually recycling. Other objectives are to maximize the economic benefits of recycling, and educate decision-makers on waste disposal savings from recycling. CMS BoPM, BOSSAP, and facilities management have collaborated to start additional recycling service in the Thompson Center in a couple weeks. Aluminum, plastic, and glass will be picked up as part of one system. *[Note: As of the time of typing these minutes, glass is no longer included.]*

A member of the audience asked about electronics recycling. The subcommittee has not focused on e-waste so far, but the issue does fall under this subcommittee's scope. David Smith (DCEO) explained that a new e-waste law was passed this year, which will phase in e-waste recycling requirements for electronics manufacturers from now to 2012. CMS has its own internal processes for recycling state e-waste. For consumers, DCEO has a list of Illinois e-waste recyclers on its website: www.illinoisrecycles.com. Laura Perna (DNR) added that the state has a program called IBID (www.ibid.illinois.gov) that operates in a

similar way to E-Bay, and it offers many computers and other surplus equipment. The Hewlett Foundation also offers some grant funding and recycles some electronics. Chip Gass (CMS) also explained that non-profit organizations (with 401c3 status) can access surplus property during time periods before the auctions begin.

- **Transportation**

Steve Massey (IDOT) reported that the subcommittee is working on increasing awareness and utilization of PrePass. PrePass has been available in Illinois for about 10 years, but many people aren't familiar with it. IDOT had a press conference to draw attention to PrePass. Only 25% of the trucking industry in the state uses it right now. The subcommittee is thinking of ways to get more truckers to take advantage of it. Right now, truckers with the PrePass transponder can see prior to the weigh station that they are approved, and they can continue in the regular lanes instead of stopping to be weighed. Right now, over 11.5 million trucks stop at the weigh stations and only about 3.3 million go straight on through with PrePass. This saves about 1,311,000 gallons of fuel from the trucks that don't have to stop; it also saves the driver time and saves the company money. PrePass has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by over 17,000 metric tons since the program's inception in Illinois. In the next decade, the estimated emissions savings is about 29,000 metric tons. PrePass also improves safety, because entering and exiting from the weigh station can be dangerous.

IDOT is also using CSS: context-sensitive solutions. CSS brings together environmental groups, interested agencies, and individuals who are stakeholders in a highway industry project. The input from these collaborations is a useful tool to save wetlands and address drainage situations. Collaborators live in the area and understand and respect local issues. IDOT uses this approach on any major project.

IDOT is also starting to test warm-mix asphalt, which only has to be heated to 300 degrees. The processing doesn't require a lot of adhesive chemicals; it is odorless and doesn't produce any smoke, which is a great benefit to workers and to anyone in the area with respiratory problems.

IDOT also has many ongoing programs, including the Adopt-A-Highway program with over 17,000 volunteers picking up over 32,000 bags of roadside waste per year on over 3,400 miles of highway. IDOT publishes fuel conservation brochure with tips for drivers in their daily use and maintenance of passenger vehicles. Some of the tips sound minor – for example, inflating tires – but they add up to significant fuel savings when replicated over millions of vehicles. Blue board signage now indicates where drivers can find biodiesel and E-85 along the roadway, and this information is also published on a map. IDOT is also still working on a wind turbine feasibility study. U of I should have a report finished fairly soon, then the next step is to secure funding.

One of areas where IDOT will focus this year is on internal capabilities to spread the word to employees about green initiatives. IDOT has nine districts and other outlying buildings; everyone has to be on the same page in terms of collection methods for batteries, paper, aluminum cans, and anything else we can track.

Keith Sherman (IDOT) is responsible for the long-range transportation plans at IDOT, so his role is to anticipate what will happen in the future, considering factors such as modal shift, energy issues, climate change, and conditions of highway and transit systems. Keith reported that NCHRP, which is an arm of the National Academies of Science and the Transportation Research Board, has set up a panel and he is serving on it. The name of the study is NCHRP Project 08-74: Sustainable Transportation Performance Measures for State DOTs.

The study will provide background information for state DOTs across the country on how to incorporate sustainability into their long-range planning and long-term capital investment programs (versus enterprise-type activities, i.e., how an agency operates day-to-day). The measures will look at the environmental, social, and economics aspects of how DOTs provide services now and in the future. The study will provide more analytical tools to assist DOTs in balancing trade-offs of using resources today versus in the future. More information on the project is available at <http://www.trb.org/TRBNet/ProjectDisplay.asp?ProjectID=2500>.

The project team currently has an RFP out and has received 18 proposals. The review and selection conference is next weekend in DC, and then the project will run about 24 months. The project objective is to help state DOT management and leadership provide a way of looking at the broader scale of long-term

transportation services they provide and optimizing them given the changing environment. Oregon DOT recently installed a “solar highway” – an array of solar PV panels installed in their right-of-way to collect solar energy along the highway. Considerations include not only how people and freight travel around the country, but also how we use our assets with a long-term perspective.

A member of the audience asked how many rest areas IDOT operates and whether they might be able to install solar panels on the roofs of those facilities to provide power. Keith responded that IDOT has 54 rest areas. IDOT does power some things – e.g., information signs and lights – with solar energy already. Using solar is a good idea that IDOT plans to research further.

Regarding a question about the recycling of asphalt shingles, Keith recommended contacting Dave Lippert in IDOT’s materials and physical research group. That group does a lot of materials testing. One of the projects they’ve looked into is long-lived highways. If you put a little more upfront money into the construction of a highway, you don’t have to do as much maintenance, which means less access through the right-of-way and less disturbance of the surrounding habitat. Concerns about the front-end costs, however, often outweigh longer-term considerations.

Gary Miller (ISTC) mentioned that the O’Hare Modernization Program developed a Sustainable Design Manual for all aspects of the project. This could serve as a model for highways and other large infrastructure projects. They won a Governor’s Pollution Prevention Award this year for their work. (See http://egov.cityofchicago.org/webportal/COCWebPortal/COC_EDITORIAL/OMPSustainabledesignManualCopywrite2003cityofChicago.pdf)

Barb Bonansinga (CMS) reported on additional activities of the transportation subcommittee. One goal is to convert the state fleet to E-85, hybrid, and biodiesel vehicles by 2015, assuming the funding exists to replace vehicles as needed. Working toward this goal has a terrific joint effort between all the agencies and universities. The fleet has become an incubator for the development of biofuels, which is particularly important for Illinois given the agricultural production here. The fleet’s use of biofuels has helped spur the state’s growth in E-85 stations, making Illinois a leader in the number of commercial fuel sites that sell E-85. Biodiesel is also available, and state agencies are conducting outreach to let employees know where these alternative fuels are sold and to promote their use.

The state needs to know its baseline carbon emissions in order to work toward the emissions reduction goals in the Chicago Climate Exchange, so CMS is working with state agencies to comprehensively track fuel consumption. CMS is also looking at purchasing smaller, more efficient vehicles and working to fit agencies with the most economical, environmentally friendly vehicle for their needs. CMS partnered with Ford Motor Company and other state agencies to pilot four E-85 hybrids – the first of their kind in the world. Hopefully this successful pilot will encourage further development and adoption of this technology throughout the country.

o **Water Conservation**

Laura Perna (DNR) reported that the water subcommittee met once, just before Thanksgiving. The state no longer buys bottled water for employee use unless it is dictated by a collective bargaining agreement. Bottled water is petroleum-dependent, so switching to tap water is a much more sustainable practice.

The water subcommittee has a challenging job because around the Great Lakes, people tend to think there’s plenty of water. Some municipalities don’t even charge people for their water use. This gives people the impression that water is a limitless resource, which is not true. The Governor mandated a water supply study to look 20 years ahead and see how well Illinois will be able to satisfy its needs for water – commercially, industrially, and residentially. There are two separate systems: Lake Michigan, and Central and Southern Illinois. No one really teaches people about water conservation and efficiency.

The water subcommittee would like to educate people about the ecosystem services provided by open space, in terms of stormwater water management. The rain storms and associated flooding this past summer illustrated the importance of stormwater management and the value of green infrastructure. The more we build and the more sprawl increases, the greater the likelihood of flooding and sewer overflows. When the state is considering new construction, it must properly site the building to avoid these negative impacts. Open space doesn’t just look good; it also provides ecosystem services that are basically free.

The water subcommittee is also looking at ways to capture rainwater with rain barrels. It makes no sense to use potable water for landscaping uses. Water that's clean enough drink isn't necessary for watering plants and gardens. State buildings, e.g., highway rest stops, are sites where the state could start capturing rain water and not have to use expensive, treated water for irrigation.

Agriculture is still the biggest industry in the state of Illinois, and it's still very dependent on water. The making of biofuel is also a very water-intensive process. With climate change and the rising cost of utilities, state government has to be a leader for the public in recognizing that water is a limited resource – one that we have to be using more thoughtfully and wisely than we have in the past.

- **Education & Outreach**

Kate Tomford (LTG) reported that the education and outreach subcommittee has met once and is focusing on increasing membership in the Sustainable University Compact and Sustainable Schools Compact programs. The Illinois Board of Higher Education, the State Board of Education, and the Department of Public Health will be helping to publicize the compacts through their existing programs and contacts. This winter, the subcommittee will be working on revising and enhancing the GGCC outreach materials and activities coordinated through the Lt. Governor's Office, i.e., online resources, Go Green Planning Pro, newsletters, meetings, and symposiums.

- **Adjourn**

- **Information on the 2008 Green Government Awards is posted at:**
<http://www.standingupforillinois.org/green/GGCC.php>