

Chester County GHGRTF Ag and Forestry Minutes

February 27, 2008

Attending: Duncan Allison, Mike Bullard, Vic Laubach, Drew McDowell, Paul Bellezza, Gene Wilson

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 PM at the Hazlitt Building.

The meeting began with introductions of the Committee members.

Duncan presented the short timetable for the Committee from now until December, and then moved the Committee into a discussion of possible areas that the Committee should cover so as to be able to make GHGR recommendations in to the Commissioners.

There was agreement that while agriculture represented a relatively small proportion of total GHG emissions (7-9% U.S., 2.2% in PA and ~1% in Montgomery County) there was potential in most segments to reduce emissions using current technology and to increase carbon sequestration, particularly through the planting of more trees.

The following categories were identified, with Committee members volunteering to gather information in those categories:

- Biomass, Cellulosic Energy—Paul
- Conservation Tillage, Soil Management, Fertilizers—Duncan
- Trees, Riparian Buffers—Mike
- Green Industry—Victoria
- Mushroom Industry, Compost—Duncan
- Dairy Best Practice, Dairy Methane—Mike

Committee members agreed to bring information on GHG emissions and energy use for each of their segments so that baseline data could be established. Potential for reducing emissions both directly and indirectly by reducing energy use and for carbon sequestration would be explored so that the basis for recommendations could be established. Ideas for educational materials and issues that require action should also be brought.

NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY MARCH 26, 2008 2:00 – 4:00 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM.