Climate Change Work Group
Permits, New Source Reviews, and Toxics Subcommittee
Clean Air Act Advisory Committee

Addressing the challenge of Climate Change will require a well-coordinated effort. Actions by EPA to provide information and policy guidance to assist states and regulated entities implementing measures to reduce greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act (CAA) would facilitate more efficient and consistent implementation, particularly in key areas such as permitting under the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Program and the assessment of Best Available Control Technology (BACT).

Charge

The charge to the Climate Change (CC) Work Group is to discuss and identify the major issues and potential barriers to implementing the PSD Program under the CAA for greenhouse gases. The Work Group should focus on the BACT requirement, including information and guidance that would be useful for EPA to provide concerning the technical, economic, and environmental performance characteristics of potential BACT options. In addition, the Work Group should identify and discuss approaches to enable state and local permitting authorities to apply the BACT criteria in a consistent, practical and efficient manner.

Duration

The Work Group is expected to convene for a six-month period from October 2009 through March 2010.

Anticipated Outcomes from the Work Group Process

- A draft interim (3-month) and draft final (6-month) written report is to be delivered and deliberated upon by the CAAAC for submission to the US EPA.
- The draft interim report should be completed on or before December 31, 2009, be approximately ten pages (or less) and identify technical, economic, environmental and other information that would be useful to enable sources and permitting authorities to implement BACT for GHGs.
- The draft final report is due on or before March 30, 2010, should also be approximately ten pages (or less) and include recommendations for EPA to address the issues and potential barriers associated with the implementation of BACT for GHGs.