

27 April 2017

Meeting Minutes

Introductions and Subcommittee News

- 1 The Global Methane Initiative (GMI) Biogas Subcommittee conducted an Internet-based meeting on 27 April 2017.
- 2 Chris Voell (EPA) welcomed participants and went over the agenda for the meeting. The agenda and all the slides presented during the meeting can be found on the GMI website.
- 3 Monica Shimamura (EPA, Director of GMI Administrative Support Group (ASG)) provided an update on ASG activities, including the 2016 Global Methane Forum and GMI's new charter, including consolidation of the former agriculture, municipal solid waste (MSW), and municipal wastewater Subcommittees into a single new Biogas Subcommittee. Other GMI news was presented, including:
 - Canada and Mexico are new Steering Committee Co-Chairs
 - United States has formally stepped down from the Steering Committee; however, the U.S. will continue to maintain the Secretariat
 - June 2017: Canada hosting GMI Oil and Gas Subcommittee in conjunction with Global Petroleum Show
 - October 2017: In conjunction with UNECE, GMI will be hosting Coal Subcommittee Meeting
 - GMI and CCAC working together to develop another combined meeting in 2018
- 4 Mr. Voell outlined how and why the new Biogas Subcommittee was formed due to commonalities and synergies between the three sectors. A Biogas Subcommittee Action Plan has been drafted to define the purpose of the Subcommittee, establish a definition for biogas, list potential Subcommittee activities, and define the structure of the Subcommittee and its leadership, including co-chairs, vice-chairs, and technical leads. Some of the positions remain unfilled and a request for volunteers or nominations was made. Mr. Voell outlined current Biogas Subcommittee activities and plans for future work and the floor was opened for any general questions or input from participants. Participant discussion included the following:
 - A participant from Morocco asked about Advanced Biogas Technology Training, specifically with respect to monitoring technology on an industrial scale.
 - A participant from Canada noted that Canada has a program for biofuels, currently priced at \$30/GJ.
 - A participant from India noted that India is a leader in biogas to vehicle fuel production and is providing training on the topic. He also asked about any activities happening in the field of bio-CO₂ recovery.
 - A participant from Tanzania stated that more information and training is needed on all biogas-related topics and offered to serve as a technical lead for the Subcommittee.
 - A participant from India asked what kind of technical assistance GMI provides.

- A participant from Singapore noted that he has a UNFCCC-approved project and asked where he could find additional information or assistance from GMI.

Country Updates

- 5 Mr. Voell, Ms. Shimamura, and Mr. Tom Frankiewicz (EPA) provided updates on U.S. activities in the agriculture, wastewater, and MSW sectors, respectively, and opened the floor for updates from other country delegates and representatives. Participant discussion included the following:
- A participant asked where to find the international landfill gas (LFG) screening tool when it is available. Mr. Frankiewicz responded that the tool can be provided by email upon request and will be posted to the GMI website when it is complete.
 - A participant from Africa asked how they could develop a low-cost biogas project in Africa.
 - A participant from India noted there is a bioreactor initiative for LFG management in India.
 - A participant from Spain mentioned a new 400,000 tons per year manure management project in Spain, producing 30 MW of electricity. Mr. Voell asked the participant to forward more information about that project.
 - A participant from the U.S. suggested the possible formation of a working/interest group on food waste prevention, diversion, and processing. Mr. Frankiewicz agreed that is a good idea.
 - A participant from Morocco suggested classifications for biogas projects, including:
 - Rural/household biogas
 - Agro-industrial biogas
 - Municipal biogas
 Mr. Voell agreed with the classifications and noted that is part of the rationale for combining the agriculture, MSW, and wastewater sectors into a single Biogas Subcommittee.

Next Biogas Subcommittee Meeting

- 6 Mr. Voell announced the next in-person Biogas Subcommittee will be held in conjunction with the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA) World Congress and the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) WASTECON in Baltimore, Maryland (USA), 25-27 September 2017. Mr. Voell also solicited any interest in presenting at the conference.
- A delegate from Turkey and a participant from Tanzania asked whether there would be a cost to attend the next in-person meeting. Mr. Voell there would not be a cost for GMI Biogas Subcommittee activities but there could be a cost associated with other SWANA or ISWA activities.
 - A participant from Canada also noted the upcoming Alltech ONE17 conference in Kentucky in May. Mr. Voell asked the participant to forward information about the conference.

Special Presentation: Livestock Waste Management in Philippines

- 7 Mary Sagapan and RL Jerlyn Oliva (Development Academy of the Philippines) presented an overview of livestock industry in the Philippines, collaboration between DAP and GMI, and information from the Buklod-Unlad Cooperative and its stakeholders.

Meeting Adjourned