

GREENHOUSE GAS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

between the

ALBERTA MOTOR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION (AMTA)

and

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA (GOA)

FINAL REPORT: 2005 - 2008

Overview:

The Greenhouse Gas (GHG) MOU between the AMTA and the GOA was signed by the Executive Director of the AMTA, and Ministers of Alberta Environment (AENV) and Infrastructure and Transportation (INFTRA) on June 16th, 2005. As a result of this MOU, the parties agreed to form a joint committee to study and act on methods to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) in the commercial trucking industry in Alberta.

Industry sector MOU agreements were outlined as a major GHG initiative and tool in Alberta's Climate Change Action Plan – *Albertans & Climate Change: Taking Action (2002)*. The AMTA-GOA MOU was the first of its kind signed by an industry sector and the Government of Alberta in the area of GHG mitigation.

The duration of the MOU extends to December 31, 2008. The MOU stipulates that upon conclusion of the MOU process, reviews will be conducted by all Parties, and if agreed, a subsequent MOU or Agreement will be established building on the achievements of the original MOU. The Final Report (2005-2008), is intended to facilitate this review process by providing all Parties with an overview summary of activities undertaken through the MOU agreement period (June, 2005 to December 2008).

Coordinating Committee:

The MOU called for the establishment of a coordinating committee to oversee its implementation. This committee was established in November, 2005, as the AMTA Greenhouse Gas Coordinating Committee (AGCC).

The AGCC was made up of representatives from the Alberta Government, the AMTA, Climate Change Central, and the Alberta trucking industry. The committee was established to provide overall direction and consultation regarding possible measures and initiatives that would facilitate fuel use reduction and the mitigation of GHG emissions from the Alberta trucking sector in accordance with the MOU.

The membership of the AGCC consisted of:

- Lawrence Schmidt, representing AENV (co-chair)
- Mayne Root, AMTA (co-chair)
- Bud Rice, AMTA
- Goldie Edworthy, AENV
- Peter Dzikowski, AT

- Lloyd Blower, AT
- John Rilett, Climate Change Central (C3)
- Adam Gagnon, C3
- Don Chapman, Canadian Freightways
- Peter Mills, Canadian Freightways
- Gail Sharko, ECL Transportation
- Vic Duckering, Duckering's Transport
- John Finn, Exalta
- Terry Rhode, Rosenau Transport

Lawrence Schmidt (representing AENV) and Mayne Root (AMTA) served as co-chairs of the AGCC. Through the course of this MOU period (2005-2008) the AGCC met as a full committee on seven occasions, in Calgary, Alberta, on the following dates:

- November 18, 2005
- January 18, 2006
- February 22, 2006
- July 10, 2006
- October 30, 2007
- March 10, 2008
- September 19, 2008

In addition to these formal AGCC meeting, two conference calls meetings of the committee were undertaken through this time period. As well, a core committee of the AGCC was formed, consisting of representatives from government, C3 and industry. This core committee met on several occasions in order to advance the actions designated by the AGCC.

MOU Activities:

(reported on a semi-annual basis)

July / 05 – December / 05

- Establishment of AGCC structure and operating protocol (committee name, recruitment of membership, purpose of committee, chair roles, and various member assignments).
- Briefing of membership (AGCC meetings and alternate communications): federal and provincial climate change policy, GHG mitigation policy and practices related to the trucking sector.
- Fuel efficiency presence established on the AMTA web site to provide members with program information, strategies and best practices related to fuel efficiency, climate change and air emissions mitigation strategies and initiatives.

January / 06 – August / 06

- Major transport carrier survey developed and industry tested by AGCC – survey designed to collect data regarding current fuel efficiency practices and GHG mitigation activity in the Alberta trucking sector.

- Research undertaken to develop linkages and communications between AGCC activities and the national Fleet Challenge Program.

September / 06 – December / 06

- Research and analysis undertaken to investigate other possible mitigation strategies related to truck stop electrification, biodiesel, truck speed limitations, NRCan driver training, etc.
- Initial plan for survey distribution and data collection established and overviewed by AGCC, with further fine-tuning and revision of draft survey.
- Development, drafting and committee review of annual AGCC report and work-plan.

January / 07 – August / 07

- Funds from AENV secured (\$20,000 in grant form), for survey formatting (electronic), distribution, promotion and analysis.
- AGCC engaged in a consultant selection process for survey management and analysis. AGCC selected Climate Change Central as consultant to manage survey process and provide analysis.
- Contract arrangement and details were coordinated: contract between AENV and AMTA; and contract between AMTA and C3.

September / 07 – December 07

- Survey distribution strategy finalized by officials from Climate Change Central, reviewed and edited by AGCC, incorporating early-bird prize strategy, along with further survey participation promotion (direct email campaign).
- Survey distribution process initiated through AMTA newsletters, email distribution and website promotion; and ongoing collection / management of response data.
- Development, drafting and committee review of annual AGCC report and work-plan.

January / 08 – August / 08

- Survey distribution and data collection / management finalized with drafting and review of Final Report, presented to the AGCC.
- Interpretation of survey data and final report information leading to AGCC decision / mandate that future action coordinated by the AGCC be focused in three key areas: (1) case studies (potential rebate program); (2) best practices (award recognition program); (3) driver education.

September / 08 – December / 08

- AENV announces funds available through 2008/09 for possible position establishment to undertake groundwork required for a potential rebate program

(2009/10) and potential initiatives in the area of best practices recognition program and driver education. Contract arrangements established between AMTA and AENV regarding funds for position.

- Initial ground work and information gathered and presented to AGCC regarding ongoing rebate program in other jurisdictions.
- Development, drafting and AGCC review of MOU Final Report.

Accomplishments and Accountability:

1. Engagement of Alberta trucking industry through AGCC and AMTA.
2. Completion of Alberta industry survey, collecting relevant data.
3. Processing of survey data to establish AGCC priority areas.
4. Ongoing reporting accountability – annual reports and works plan (2005-2008).

Major Initiative Proposed:

Position / Contract - (2009-2011):

Current plans and contract arrangements are underway for the establishment of a contract position to design an Alberta industry rebate program. AENV has designated \$200,000 for this position and related expenses, which will also focus on opportunities in the area of an awards recognition program and driver education (2009-2011). This position would be directed and led by the AGCC through an extension of the MOU.

Recommendations:

1. MOU Renewal:

It is recommended that AENV, AT and the AMTA initiate an MOU renewal process. This is in alignment with the expiring MOU that calls for the establishment of a subsequent MOU, building on the achievements of the original MOU, if agreed by all parties.

With vital data collected from the industry and established focus areas of GHG mitigation action, the AGCC is now poised to begin program work that will realize actual industry progress in fuel efficiency and GHG mitigation, resulting from this MOU process.

2. Updated Work Plan:

It is recommended that upon establishment of a new MOU, that a new work plan be drafted to outline and timeline target initiatives for the next phase of industry activity, related to GHG mitigation and fuel efficiency advancement.

3. Program Support:

It is recommended that AENV, AT and the AMTA support the programs and initiatives identified by the AGCC through this MOU process, in the following key focus areas: (1) potential rebate program; (2) best practices award recognition program; (3) driver education.

Program support can be directed to these initiatives in the form of: funding, provision of staff time (research and task delivery), communications, etc. The proposed program support is required to resource the activities and focus areas outlined above.