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**GOVERNOR'S ACTION TEAM ON ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE
BEGINS PHASE TWO OF FLORIDA'S ACTION PLAN**

TALLAHASSEE – The Governor's Action Team on Energy and Climate Change convened today to begin developing Phase Two of the action plan. The Action Team is charged with creating and evaluating comprehensive actions to achieve reduction targets for greenhouse gas reductions specified in Executive Order 07-127. The Phase Two report, due October 1, will focus on mitigating impacts to society, public health, the economy and the environment created by greenhouse gas emissions from new growth.

At today's meeting, Action Team Chairman Michael W. Sole, Secretary of Florida Department of Environmental Protection, introduced the Center for Climate Strategies as facilitators for the Phase Two process. The Center is a nonprofit organization that works with public officials and stakeholders to identify, design, and implement policies that address climate mitigation, clean energy, and economic development opportunities. Currently, the Center is working in 16 states to build consensus and develop comprehensive action plans.

“Meeting Florida's growing energy needs while reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases is one of the most important issues we face today,” said Action Team Chairman Sole. “By having the Center for Climate Strategies facilitating this important stakeholder dialogue on climate change, we can ensure that the people of Florida will continue to enjoy the natural landscape and the quality of life we all enjoy.”

The Action Team, with the Center for Climate Strategies, is creating a facilitated stakeholder process to form Technical Work Groups operating alongside the Action Team during Phase Two. Building on and completing the Phase One report and framework of recommendations that was delivered to Governor Crist on November 1, 2007, the Action Team and Technical Work Groups will explore carbon capture and storage technologies and coordinate a long-term public policy focused on reducing greenhouse gases in areas of economic development, university-based research and development (R&D), energy, environmental protection, growth management and transportation. The six groups will report back in future months to address cap and trade design; electric supply and demand issues; transportation and land use; agriculture, forestry and waste management; government policy coordination; and adaptation.

“By creating the Technical Work Groups, the Action Team will receive full and thorough input and guidance from wide range of stakeholders,” said Chairman Sole. “Partnering experts from various industries with the members of the Action Team, we can shape Florida’s climate change strategies with consensus-based policy solutions.”

The Action Team received public comment at today’s meeting about proceedings to date and the facilitated process. Further public comment can be provided electronically to actionteam@dep.state.fl.us. To sign up for free email alerts about Florida’s current climate change activities, see the presentations from the meetings, or for more information, visit www.dep.state.fl.us/climatechange.

The Governor’s Action Team is one component of a series of initiatives outlined in three Executive Orders Governor Crist signed at the Serve to Preserve Summit on Global Climate Change in July 2007. Other activities include developing a carbon scorecard for all state agencies and making state buildings and vehicles more energy efficient.

Background on Energy Action Team

Governor Crist established the Action Team on Energy and Climate Change by signing Executive Order 07-128, “Florida Governor’s Action Team on Energy and Climate Change,” on July 13, 2007. The team consists of 21 diverse members, each appointed to a term beginning August 13, 2007, and ending at the pleasure of the Governor. The team will develop an Action Plan to achieve targets for statewide greenhouse gas reductions, including policy recommendations and changes to existing law. The Florida Energy and Climate Change Action Plan will be completed in two phases:

- **Phase One – Completion Date: November 1, 2007**

On November 1, 2007, Governor Charlie Crist received the Phase One report of the Action Team on Energy and Climate Change. The report includes recommendations regarding Florida’s energy policy and incorporating greenhouse gas emission reduction strategies into Florida’s energy future.

- **Phase Two – Completion Date: October 1, 2008**

Phase Two will focus on mitigating impacts to society, public health, the economy and the environment created by greenhouse gas emissions from new growth. The action team will explore carbon capture and store technologies and will coordinate a long-term public policy focused on reducing greenhouse gases in areas of economic development, university-based research and technology development, energy, environmental

protection, natural resource and growth management and transportation. The Action Team will also explore adaptation strategies to prepare Florida for adverse impacts as a result of climate change.

DEP Secretary Michael W. Sole serves as chairman of the Action Team on Energy and Climate Change, and DEP staff provides administrative support. The Department of Community Affairs, Department of Transportation, Public Service Commission and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will also provide assistance at the request of the chairman.

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