MGA Draft Work Plans for Cross-State Collaboration

At the June MGA meeting, *Increasing Midwestern Energy Production & Achieving Low Cost Energy*, small and full group discussions took place around possibilities for future cross-state collaborative work that corresponded to a set of opportunities and challenges identified by states through a survey and follow-up interviews. Previous input received and the discussions at the June meeting helped to inform a set of draft work plans for specific activities states could choose to work together on to make progress on key energy related issues.

Next Steps

In order to prioritize which particular issues are most ripe for immediate action, staff is asking states to review the draft set of work plans contained in this document. How many of the draft work plans move forward will depend on a combination of interest among states, funding and staff capacity. These draft work plans are just starting points and your review and continued participation is needed to refine the drafts to ensure we can achieve the best outcomes.

After reviewing the individual work plans please indicate if this is an issue your state is interested in discussing further on a conference call. Please fill out the table below and provide the name and contact information for a state staff person who we should be sure to include in the scheduling of a conference call. Your state's participation in a conference call to discuss the draft work plan will not lock your state into working on that issue, but helps us get a greater breadth of input.

Work Plan	State Abbreviation (indicates interest)	Contact name and contact information (phone & e-mail)
Rapidly Changing Electricity Mix		
Industrial Energy Efficiency		
Energy Efficiency in Public Buildings		
Distributed Generation		
Impacts of Natural Gas		
Development		
Diversifying Transportation Fuels Mix		

Work Plan Summaries

Each of the work plan titles below are bookmarked in this document. To jump to a specific work plan document, hit CTRL + click on the title. Each of the work plan documents has the following elements: purpose statement for work plan, specific activities and within each activity, the project components, product, funding, and anticipated time commitment. The summary below includes the main activities for each work plan and initial assessment by staff on funding for the work.

1. Impacts of a Rapidly Changing Electricity Mix

Activity 1: Convene relevant interests around specific planning regions within MISO, PJM and SPP to recommend possible actions on issues caused by EPA rules such as timing of plant retirements, reliability and transmission planning.

Activity 2: Address problems with transporting large loads (for wind turbines and other energy facilities) across state lines.

Funding: There is some funding in hand to get this work started, but additional funding will likely be needed.

2. Energy Efficiency

Industrial Energy Efficiency

Activity 1: Comparing and contrasting Midwestern industrial energy efficiency and combined heat and power goals, policies, and programs.

Activity 2: Comparing and contrasting industrial energy efficiency program outcomes.

Activity 3: Assessing the scale of the manufacturing and economic development opportunity related to industrial energy efficiency.

Activity 4: Letters and Statements: the group discussed the possibility of sending targeted letters to share the Midwestern perspective on key issues.

Funding: Existing funding could be used to provide staffing for Activity 1, partners are seeking joint funding for Activity 2, there is no current funding for Activity 3 and Activity 4 is a low cost activity and no new funding would be required.

Energy Efficiency in Public Buildings

Activity 1: Information sharing on state public building energy efforts via conference calls, or webinars or an event.

Funding: There is no current funding in place and future funding is unlikely to come from private foundations.

3. Distributed Generation

Activity 1: Comparing and Contrasting Midwestern State Policies and Regulatory Treatment of Distributed Generation (or: Develop a Midwestern Distributed Generation Roadmap)

Funding: No current dedicated funding. Funding could be sought for work to be started later in the year.

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4. Managing the Impacts of Natural Gas Development

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Activity 1: Information sharing and identifying appropriate responses to associated activities in natural gas resource development.

Funding: Low cost activity, staff time to convene interested states could possibly be covered with existing funding.

5. <u>Diversifying the Transportation Fuels Mix and</u> <u>Pages 15-19</u> <u>Building the Needed Infrastructure</u>

Natural gas, electric vehicles and renewable fuels

Activity 1: Mapping alternative transportation infrastructure corridors, producing a "gap analysis" and making strategic decisions about where new infrastructure should be installed.

Activity 2: Develop a strategy for future installations. Use and expand membership of map development advisory group to include users of alternative transportation infrastructure (e.ge trucking companies) to develop a coordinated plan and strategy for future installations.

Funding: Existing funding could be used to start this project. Additional funding will need to be secured to complete the mapping project and strategy discussions on future installations.

Renewable Fuels

Activity 1: Federal policy advocacy and implementation of state policy to facilitate E15 adoption.

Funding: No funding at this time, but project partners are working to secure funding.

Electric Vehicles

Activity 1: Information sharing and regional dialogue on implementation issues. Several issues were identified at the June MGA meeting that could benefit from dialogue and information around EV implementation.

Funding: No funding at this time.

Impacts of a Rapidly Changing Electricity Mix

Purpose statement for work plan: The implementation of recent and proposed rules from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), combined with an aging coal generation fleet, low natural gas prices, excess capacity in most regional energy markets, and falling prices for some forms of renewable energy, are expected to result in significant changes to the region's electric generation portfolio. Every MGA state has indicated that these likely changes in the future electric generation mix pose both a challenge and potential opportunity.

Activity 1: Convene relevant interests around specific planning regions within MISO, PJM and SPP to recommend possible actions on issues caused by EPA rules such as timing of plant retirements, reliability and transmission planning.

Project components:

Convene temporary task forces for each identified problem area on the grid based on FERC and Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) analysis. These task forces would be made up of generators, environmental advocates, consumer voices, regulators, transmission owners, state officials and other appropriate interests.

Possible issues that could be addressed by task forces:

- Specific concerns and potential impacts regarding EPA regulations and how to address them.
- Opportunities for multiple states to develop solutions that may be more cost effective than single states acting alone.
- Other topics as identified by the task force.

Product:

The purpose of these task forces is to foster coordination and communication among diverse interests. A product of a specific task force could be a short document that summarizes the problems they addressed and the solutions they came up with. For any unresolved issues, the task force may recommend ways governors could usefully weigh in (e.g. letter to EPA).

Funding status:

• No current dedicated funding

Time commitment and budget needed:

• Task forces would be convened through a series of monthly web meetings to discuss shared issues. State staff commitment would be to participate in web meetings and appropriate

follow-up. Some level of commitment might also be required to present and share information with the group.

Staff commitment would be to schedule conference calls and prepare an agenda. Staff
commitment could be increased if state staff is interested in lining up outside speakers for
web meetings. Staff commitment would also be to draft task force summaries and any
correspondence on unresolved issues. . Staff commitment could also increase if the task
force requests background research to be discussed during web meetings.

Activity 2: Address problems with transporting large loads (for wind turbines and other energy facilities) across state lines.

Work components:

Work group – made up of state Departments of Transportation and appropriate industry interests. Group would need to begin by identifying specific industry concerns and identify specific DOT rules in each state that are creating a barrier. DOTs could advise on best path to address and remove current barriers.

Product:

- Specific set of recommendations on barriers to transporting energy project components across state lines. For each identified barrier also include how it could be addressed, such as through regulatory reform or new legislation.
- Work with state administrations to resolve any identified administrative barriers.

Funding status:

• No current dedicated funding

- Appropriate representative from state department of transportation to participate in work group calls.
- Staff commitment to work with industry prior to convening state DOTs to identify existing barriers.
- Plan for a total of six work group calls, each lasting one and half hours. Work group calls would focus on paths to resolving identified barriers.

Industrial Energy Efficiency

Purpose Statement for Work Plan: Every MGA state is working on energy efficiency, and many states have expressed a particular interest in the industrial sector, which uses roughly one third of the region's energy. State industrial energy efficiency (IEE) policies and programs vary widely and participants in the June MGA meeting expressed interest in comparing their programs' cost effectiveness, impact, and participation rates. Some states are also interested in combined heat and power (CHP) and waste energy recovery (WER) as energy efficiency strategies, as a possible compliance pathway for the pending Boiler MACT regulations, and as new sources of electric generation. The MGA has completed previous work on IEE and those past efforts provide a foundation for continued regional collaboration on topics ranging from financing to program designs.

Activity 1: Comparing and contrasting Midwestern industrial energy efficiency and combined heat and power goals, policies, and programs.

Work Components:

Work Group – made up of state staff, utility representatives, technical experts, regulators, and industry representatives would guide the work on this topic and share information on:

- Midwestern Program goals Are there state goals for IEE? Who is responsible for meeting them? How do they compare to the SEE Action Network goals and to the goals in other leading states? How do they compare to voluntary commitments that industry has made?
- Midwestern Program Policies How is industry treated in the state energy efficiency standard. If utility EE programs are commission ordered, are industrial customers included and on what basis? Is there a self-direct or opt-out option and how is it designed?
- Air quality implementation is industrial energy efficiency included as an option in state air quality implementation plans? How is that structured?
- Cogeneration, including combined heat and power and waste energy recovery how is cogeneration treated in state policy and what policies are the most effective in supporting the development?
- State Programs What programs are in place in each state? Who runs them? What are the outcomes including cost effectiveness, participation and energy savings?
- IEE Financing What's in place in the states and how does it compare with leading states?

Final Product: Documentation of Midwestern industrial energy efficiency programs with power points, state fact sheets, MGA white papers or a final report.

Estimated Budget: would depend on the format and final product

Funding status: Great Plains Institute has funding from the Joyce Foundation that would fund staffing of this effort.

Time commitment: This work could include one or more in-person meetings, a series of webinars, a conference or forum (as in 2011), and/or a final written product

Activity 2: Comparing and contrasting industrial energy efficiency program outcomes.

Participants at the June meeting breakout session on industrial energy efficiency expressed an interest in learning more about how the impact and cost effectiveness of their state's programs compared with others. World Resources Institute and ACEEE had been considering national research on this topic that may provide value to the Midwestern states.

The proposed analysis would identify "best-practice" model state IEE policies and programs based on demonstrated cost-effectiveness, ability to achieve results at scale and other quantitative metrics. The researchers propose to examine data from roughly a dozen industrialized states, including several Midwestern states. This study would focus on the two program types:

- a. Utility-run programs supported by a cost recovery mechanism,
- **b.** Self-direct programs (with rigorous data reporting, to ensure appropriate EM&V),

Research and analysis would quantitatively assess the relative policy effectiveness from the following perspectives:

- a. Cost effectiveness: What is the <u>cost of saved energy</u> for each policy and program type? If results vary significantly within each type, assess how certain policy or program design features may have proven to be more cost-effective than others.
- b. Impact: Which states (or utilities) are achieving the most total industrial energy savings? Is there evidence that policy design was a significant driver? Which policy models tend to achieve deeper (and continuous) energy savings by participating entities? What are the characteristics of manufacturing subsectors that tend to achieve the most energy savings?
- c. Participation: Which policies have the greatest participation rates by industrial customers? What are the characteristics of manufacturing subsectors that tend to participate more than others?

The study process would include a work group or advisory committee and technical reviewers.

Final Product: Analysis and report

Estimated Budget: Not yet determined

Funding status: Full funding not yet secured. WRI, ACEEE, and Great Plains Institute will seek the funding for this product.

Time commitment: Report would be complete in spring or early summer of 2013

Activity 3: The group in the industrial EE breakout expressed some interest in assessing the scale of the manufacturing and economic development opportunity related to industrial energy efficiency. The group discussed learning more about what companies manufacture EE products or deliver IEE services. It was noted that IA may be doing some analysis on supply-chain implications ("economic gardening") and MGA work could complement this effort.

If there is interest in pursuing this, discussions with state economic development staff would be needed to develop a specific work plan.

Estimated Budget: Not yet determined

Funding status: No funding is yet available for this work

Time commitment: Undetermined

Activity 4: Letters and Statements: the group discussed the possibility of sending targeted letters to share the Midwestern perspective on key issues. Specific ideas included:

- Encourage DOE to include ethanol plants in their Advanced Manufacturing Initiative
- Letter to foundations considering investment in commercial EE

Estimated Budget: this is a low cost activity. No additional MGA funding would be required.

Time Commitment: Limited

Public Building Energy Efficiency

Purpose statement for work plan: Each of the MGA states highlighted energy efficiency as an important and immediate opportunity to keep energy costs low for government and all ratepayers. Each of the states is working on improving the energy efficiency of public buildings and facilities and some extend goals and assistance to local governments as well. States were interested in sharing information on successes and in learning from others to improve program effectiveness.

Activity 1: Information sharing on state public building energy efficiency efforts

Depending on funding and interest by states there are three options outlined below that could accomplish the goal for information sharing among states on efforts to improve the efficiency of public buildings.

Option 1: Information sharing via regular phone calls or webinars. Topics of interest are:

- a) State public building energy savings goals and how goals were set (Executive Order, state policy, etc.) Do they apply to state buildings only or include local governments?
- b) Compare benchmarking tools (for state and local government buildings).
- c) Compare experience with Energy Service Companies: enabling legislation, model contracts, master contracts.
- d) Compare experience with internal coordination issues.
- e) Share other issues as they come up.

Product: The product could range from posted presentations and meeting summaries to published "fact sheets" or "MGA briefs" on each topic.

Estimated Budget:

Low Estimate (staff role is to convene and facilitate calls. Participants would volunteer to prepare presentations. Product would be posted presentations and meeting summary)

- 30 hours to convene the group and identify the topics
- 15 hours per call (2 hours to prep, 2 hours on the call, 2 hours preparing meeting summary,
 2 5 hours to survey the group, identify next call topic, and identify speakers)

Higher Estimate (Staff role would be to do pre-call research on the topic, looking especially at Midwestern state experience with the topic, identify leading states if outside the region, and prepare draft issue brief, plus all of the above, finalize issue brief based on call)

- 30 hours to research and write draft issue brief
- 30 hours to convene the group and identify the topics

- 15 hours per call (2 hours to prep, 2 hours on the call, 2 hours preparing meeting summary,
 2 5 hours to survey the group, identify next call topic, and identify speakers)
- 10 hours to complete issue brief

Funding: no current funding in place. Foundations are unlikely to would fund this work.

Time Commitment: the group could be time limited or meet as long as participants found it helpful.

Option 2: Highlighting and recognizing success

MGA could identify, write up, publish and share success stories. This could be an extension of Activity One and could highlight the excellent work on this topic being done by many of the member states.

Product: One success story per interested state

Budget:

Time Commitment: limited

Option 3: Host an event focused on public building energy efficiency

An event could be held in conjunction with another event widely attended by state staff, such as a regional or national NASEO meeting. The event could focus on the same types of topics identified above and would be planned by a small planning committee of state staff. An event of this type has the potential to co-sponsored by other organizations.

Product: Meeting presentations. Could publish a final paper.

Budget: would vary depending on the exact product and scope of an in-person meeting.

Time Commitment: Time commitment would depend on the size and complexity of the event and whether or not there is a strong number of event co-sponsor(s).

Distributed Generation

Purpose statement for work plan: Several MGA states have identified distributed generation of renewable energy resources as an opportunity and an area that would benefit from regional collaboration. The states are interested in sharing their respective experiences and lessons learned from developing and implementing distributed generation policy, especially on the topics of interconnection standards, project permitting, incentives, and policies such as net metering, resource carve-outs and technology manufacturing. States are interested in reviewing model legislation and policies already developed by industry groups, states, or others.

Activity 1: Comparing and Contrasting Midwestern State Policies and Regulatory Treatment of Distributed Generation (or: Develop a Midwestern Distributed Generation Roadmap)

Project components:

A work group – state people for now (based on feedback from the people at the meeting). Their role would be to guide the project. It could be a small group, one person from each of several interested states.

Research -

- Technologies of interest in each state and how they define DG (include solar thermal)
- Existing state policies
- Status of net metering in each state
- Status of state interconnection standards (FERC interconnection standard adopted by many states)
- Permitting issues (output based emissions standards, for instance)
- Other issues such as insurance, local siting policies, etc.
- Utility issues
- Data on rate impacts of DG
- Model legislation

Information sharing via conference calls

- On the above topics (with briefs or power points prepared before hand)
- Results of stakeholder processes in MN and other states

Possible stakeholder discussions on model legislation – utilities, DG industry groups, university experts, and others

Product:

A report on opportunities for DG in the Midwest including model legislation or a DG Regional Roadmap.

Funding status:

• No current dedicated funding.

Time commitment and budget needed: Project could be scaled to level of interest and available funding

- Low level: monthly conference calls with information and power points supplied by participants
- Next level: Monthly conference calls with notes or short issue briefs prepared after each call
- Next level: Monthly calls with staff research, issue briefs and power points developed by staff
- Highest level: all of the above plus a final report

Note: There was also interest in the supply chain issues, but this group of people did not know much about the opportunities and suggested that we talk with their state economic development people. *GPI is probably not the right group to staff supply chain work.*

Managing the Impacts of Natural Gas Development

Purpose statement for MGA work plan: Although most MGA states do not have natural gas resource development occurring, states are experiencing local impacts from associated development activities, such as sand mining. States are interested in discussing common issues and sharing information in order help states determine most appropriate response to a variety of local issues.

Activity 1: Information sharing and identifying appropriate responses to associated activities in natural gas resource development.

Project components:

Work group – made up of state staff from interested states to discuss the following issues:

- Local impacts from associated industry development, such as sand mining.
 - How are other states handling sanding mining permitting?
 - How are states working with local communities on sand mining?
- Evaluating each state's regulations governing water withdrawals to ensure compliance with the Great Lakes Compact.
- Share information on state water use plans and provide educational information on water use required for energy production.
- Copper theft and water use are two large issues facing utilities.
 - Is it possible to have consistent laws on cooper theft and water use across MGA states?
- Natural gas may result in more volatility in the fuel adjustment clause that consumers see.
 - Is there anything that governors can do to help manage this volatility? Could be a fruitful conversation among states.

Product:

• No specific product proposed at this time. This would be an internal information sharing group.

Funding:

- No dedicated funding at this time.
- Possible to cover this work under an existing grant

- Anticipated that this work group could discuss these issues through series of three web meetings, each lasting one and half hours. Total of nine hours to participate in web meetings. Might be some additional time commitment required for short presentations from state staff to work group.
- Staff time commitment would be a total of nine hours for the web meetings and another nine hours of staff time to prep for the calls.

Diversifying the Transportation Fuels Mix and Building the Needed Infrastructure

Purpose statement for work plan: Transportation is an important issue for all Midwestern states, but areas of interest and specific strategies to address future transportation challenges vary from state-to-state. The current transportation issues identified by MGA states fall under electric vehicles (EVs), renewable fuel development and natural gas (CNG or LNG) vehicles. Each of these transportation areas requires some level of additional infrastructure to deploy the alternative vehicle technology.

Activity 1: Mapping alternative transportation infrastructure corridors, producing a "gap analysis" and making strategic decisions about where new infrastructure should be installed

Project components:

An advisory group – of state staff and industry partners to help inform the development of alternative transportation map.

Data mining - rely on existing data from a variety of sources to identify where alternative transportation infrastructure development is already occurring. Identify pilot projects in different cities, share information on what infrastructure states plan to install so that neighboring states can build infrastructure in order to create a coherent system. Include in the map, private sector plans for alternative infrastructure (e.g. natural gas)

Product:

• Interactive GIS map of existing and planned alternative transportation infrastructure installations.

Funding status:

- No current dedicated funding
- Possible funders include; Energy Foundation and national DOE labs.

- State staff commitment would be participate in monthly web meetings to identify data sources, review early iterations of the map and offer suggestions for improvements.
- In order to alleviate some of the staff cost, could look at the possibility of working with a state GIS office to build the map. The staff commitment for this approach could be data collection, convening advisory group and coordinating advisory group suggested improvements.
- If a state GIS office cannot be used to help build the map, the staff time would be increased significantly to also include development of the map.

Activity 2: Develop a strategy for future installations. Use and expand membership of map development advisory group to include users of alternative transportation infrastructure (e.ge trucking companies) to develop a coordinated plan and strategy for future installations.

Work components:

An advisory group – made up of interested state staff and a broad range of private interests that could advise and discuss a strategy for where future alternative transportation infrastructure should be installed. At the June MGA meeting there was specific interest in convening natural gas for transportation interests:

- Share information on the quality of biogas required for transportation use.
- Convene the main station developers (e.g., KwikTrip) to understand their plans for alt. fueling infrastructure and what barriers they face and what partnership opportunities they see.
- Convene likely users of NG refueling infrastructure; could split the conversation between long-haul vehicles and short-haul. This could include companies like FedEx and UPS. 13 states developed an MOU on state fleet use of NG (OH is one of them).
- Convene some national associations (e.g., the Am. Lung Association helped on E85) to see if there are ways they might play a similar facilitator/educator role with natural gas.
- Tie this transportation infrastructure development effort with the MGA Branding effort (Midwest as a transportation hub and manufacturing hub).

GIS map augmentation – work with advisory group to add appropriate data layers to infrastructure map that would include recommendations on targeted locations for future infrastructure installations (natural gas refueling, EV charging and renewable fuel refueling).

Product:

• Additional map layers on recommendations for strategic locations for future infrastructure investments.

Funding status:

- No current dedicated funding
- Possible funders include; Energy Foundation and national DOE labs.

Time commitment and budget needed:

• State staff commitment would be participate in monthly web meetings to review existing map date and discuss and decide with private interests strategic locations for future installations.

- In order to alleviate some of the staff cost, could look at the possibility of working with a state GIS office to help augment the map. The staff commitment for this approach could be data collection, convening advisory group and coordinating advisory group suggested improvements.
- If a state GIS office cannot be used to help build the map, the staff time would be increased significantly to also include map augmentation.

Renewable Fuels

Activity 1: Federal policy advocacy and implementation of state policy to facilitate E15 adoption.

Work components:

Letter or coordinated public statements – from MGA or appropriate individual governors to relevant members of Congress to support the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) as a jobs and economic development benefit for the region (both direct and indirect jobs). MGA or appropriate individual governors could also weigh in to support the renewal of the federal biodiesel credit.

Coordinate and accelerate E15 adoption in MGA states - The Midwestern Governors Association convened a multi-stakeholder group dedicated to continuing the Midwest's leadership role in biofuels production. The group identified successful roll-out of E15 (15% ethanol blended with gasoline for use in non-flex-fuel gasoline engines) as a priority. Working with MGA as a partner, the Great Plains Institute proposes to hold an in-person meeting to discuss specific issues to inform state leaders about state policy barriers to E15 roll-out, and their potential role in overcoming those barriers. Addressing these issues would remove market barriers for corn ethanol and expand the market for next generation biofuels. Based on recent discussions, MGA Advanced Transportation Fuels Advisory Group participants are supportive of the proposed activities and are willing to commit time and resources.

Product:

- Letters or supportive statements from MGA or individual governors on federal renewable fuel policy issues important to the region.
- Individual state action plans for resolving in-state barriers to E15 adoption.

Funding:

- No dedicated funding is available at this time.
- Great Plains Institute is working to secure funding for an E15 meeting.

- Time commitment for federal policy letters or supportive statements would be minimal. Work could be conducted via e-mail and individual phone calls. State staff time would be required to review draft letter or statements.
- Commitment for E15 meeting would require identifying right three to four people from state agencies to attend the meeting. Travel costs for state staff could be covered by meeting budget. Would be a time commitment from state staff to attend the meeting. Larger commitment would be implementing state action plan to address E15 barriers.

Electric Vehicles

Activity 1: Information sharing and regional dialogue on implementation issues. Several issues were identified at the June MGA meeting that could benefit from dialogue and information around EV implementation. NOTE: Great Plains Institute is working to establish a Midwestern EV Partnership that will likely take up many of the same issues and would be pleased to hear from any MGA member states that may be interested in participating in this partnership.

Work components:

Work group – made of up relevant state agency or governor's office staff to share information and discuss the following issues:

- Certification of installers for EV charging stations. Are there other models for how to do this? IL in the midst of a rule-making on this (unclear about which side of the meter this is needed, or both). Does it raise Commerce Clause issues?
- EV charging stations as a "benefit" to public employees—when there are rules about providing the same benefits to all employees. IL charges a fee to get around this. A third-party vendor operates the station.
- Offer third-party opportunity to install and manage EV charging stations as a standard part of every parking facility remodel/repavement.
- Share procedures for how charging stations are permitted, sited, regulated, etc. (working group under the NGA working on this—mostly utility commissioners). They put together a best practices chart).
- Share how states are handling technology standards for charging stations (e.g., if they are public they need to have two-way communication so that users would know when a station is in use). Would be great to develop common requirements for communications.
- Agree on common signage (MI has adopted signage); or at a minimum collate all the signs being used. Look at what other Governors' Associations are doing on this topic.

Product:

- Several of the issues states are interested in discussing would be for informational purposes for those states.
- Product could be recommendations on common signage.

Funding:

• No dedicated funding is available at this time.

- State staff time to participate in monthly web meetings. Possibly rotate presenters from different states.
- Staff time commitment to schedule and facilitate monthly web meetings. Staff commitment increases if work group needs background research.