

May 26, 2009

## Introduction

On June 24, 2008, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners accepted the *Broward County Government Operations Climate Change Report* that included a review of potential climate change related impacts; a government operations greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goal; a baseline year GHG emissions inventory; reporting of early voluntary actions already implemented towards reaching the reduction target; recommendations on GHG emission reduction strategies for future consideration; and a requirement to submit annual progress reports.

This is the first annual progress report developed by the Broward County Climate Change Government Operations Workgroup (Workgroup) and it describes the actions Broward County government implemented during calendar year 2008 and progress towards achieving the reduction goal. The Workgroup continues its work to identify and promote measures that support GHG reduction in government operations.

The County's goal is to reduce County government operations GHG emissions by 7% below the 1997 baseline by 2015.

To meet the established 2015 target of 208,848 tonnes eCO<sub>2</sub>, Broward County operations must reduce an additional 51,110 tonnes eCO<sub>2</sub> from 2007 emissions levels by 2015, an estimated 6,389 tonnes per year.

In 2008, Broward County met and exceeded its annual reduction goal with an estimated reduction of 10,184 tonnes eCO<sub>2</sub>.

## Highlights

In an effort to reduce energy consumption from buildings, fossil fuel use, waste, and increase the efficiency of its operations, Broward County has implemented various measures in the past year. All these measures are included in the *Appendix, (click here)* and include:

- Became a member of the National Association of Counties' (NACo) Cool Counties, the *International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)*, and Climate Communities.
- Adopted policy in support of Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design LEED® construction standards for all county facilities.



*Environmental Monitoring Laboratory built to LEED® standards.*

- Expanded use of new hybrid electric transit buses, and alternative fuels in the County's fleet including: biodiesel, compressed natural gas; and hybrid electric vehicles, and,



*Hybrid Electric Transit Bus.*

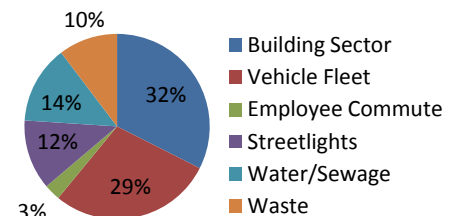
- Developed partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the WasteWise Program to reduce waste and promote recycling.

*Note: For ease of comparison, the GHGs are equated and expressed in carbon dioxide equivalents (eCO<sub>2</sub>).*

## A Word on Greenhouse Gases

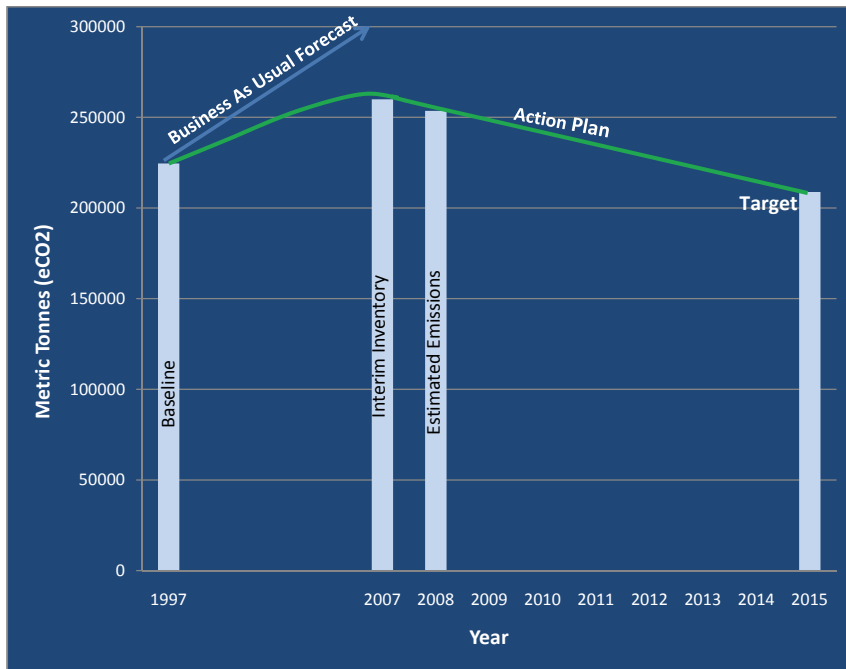
GHG emissions such as carbon dioxide and methane are the primary cause of human induced climate change. A key element of a greenhouse gas reduction program is to calculate GHG emissions and quantify reductions. The ICLEI Clean Air Climate Protection software was used to calculate the GHG generated by energy use, fuel use, and solid waste. Key emission results below:

- **Emissions:** 2007 Broward County Government Operations Greenhouse Gas emissions. Total: 259,958 tonnes eCO<sub>2</sub>



- **Reductions:** From 1997 to 2008 Broward County implemented measures that resulted in 59,199 tonnes eCO<sub>2</sub> emissions reductions (Table 1 other side). The most significant reductions were achieved in the buildings and vehicle fleet sectors.
- The measures implemented in 2008 resulted in an estimated reduction of 10,184 tonnes eCO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- Despite the implemented reductions, the 2007 and 2008 GHG emissions are higher than in 1997, due to an increase in government operations.
- Figure 1 (other side) illustrates GHG emissions inventory results, and projection for the business as usual scenarios.

**Figure 1:** Broward County Government Operations GHG Emissions and Projection Estimates



### Broward County Climate Change Government Operations Workgroup

The 2009 Annual Progress Report reflects a revised 1997 baseline. The original report included general estimates on waste generation by county operations because data were not available. This adjusted baseline includes actual waste generated based on data received.

The Broward County Climate Change Government Operations Workgroup includes representatives from many county agencies that are organized into committees in the areas of buildings/infrastructure, waste, transportation, natural systems and policies. The Workgroup Steering Committee meets monthly to identify potential emission reduction actions and propose implementation of selected actions.

The Workgroup works very closely with International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) the Budget Office, the *Broward County Climate Change Task Force*, and other local organizations to identify funding opportunities for the implementation of GHG reduction projects.

The Workgroup will continue to measure the greenhouse gas emissions from Broward County Government Operations. Some of the continued efforts to achieve the reduction goals include the following:

- Continue Data Tracking and Reporting
- Intragovernmental Coordination
- Outreach and Education
- Research of Green Government Initiatives
- Participation in Climate Change Forums and Conferences
- Grants and Policy Research
- Annual Government Operations Emissions Inventory and Progress Reports
- Coordination with Broward County Climate Change Task Force

**Table 1:** Government Operations GHG Emission Reductions from 1997- 2008

Emission Source Category	eCO <sub>2</sub> Tonnes
<b>Building Sector</b>	19,203
<b>Vehicle Fleet</b>	16,878
<b>Employee Commute</b>	1,689
<b>Streetlights</b>	7,238
<b>Water/Sewage</b>	8,078
<b>Waste</b>	6,112
<b>Total</b>	<b>59,199</b>

### Additional Resources

For questions about the 2009 Progress Report or more information about climate change programs call the Pollution Prevention, Remediation and Air Quality Division at **954-519-1220** or visit:

- [www.broward.org/climatechange](http://www.broward.org/climatechange)
- [www.broward.org/gogreen](http://www.broward.org/gogreen)
- [www.broward.org/air](http://www.broward.org/air)

