
Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: February 26, 2018

Meeting Time: 2:00 — 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Location: CT DEEP,
Gina McCarthy Auditorium,
79 Elm Street, 5th Floor, Hartford

ATTENDANCE

Council Member	Title	Organization	Present
George Bradner on behalf of Commissioner Katherine Wade	Director, Property & Casualty Division	Connecticut Department of Insurance	N
David Robinson	Chief Counsel	The Hartford	Y
Claire Coleman	Climate and Energy Attorney	Connecticut Fund for the Environment	Y
Melody Currey	Commissioner	Department of Administrative Services	N
Stefanie Keohane for Chairperson Katie Dykes	Solar Innovator	Public Utilities Regulatory Authority	Y
T.J. Hanson	Product Director	Thule, Inc.	N
John Humphries	Organizer	CT Round Table for Climate & Jobs	Y
Rob Klee (chair)	Commissioner	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	Y
David Kooris	Director of Rebuild by Design and National Disaster Resilience	Department of Housing	Y
Bryan Garcia	President and Chief Executive Officer	Connecticut Green Bank	Y
James Redeker	Commissioner	Department of Transportation	N
James O'Donnell	Executive Director	Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation	N
Catherine Smith	Commissioner	Department of Economic & Community Development	Y
Lynn Stoddard	Director	Institute for Sustainable Energy	Y
Michael Sullivan	Acting Undersecretary for Comprehensive Planning and Intergovernmental Policy	Office of Policy and Management	Y

Associated Staff	Title	Organization	Present
Mary Sotos	Deputy Commissioner	Bureau of Energy & Technology Policy, DEEP	Y
Tracy Babbidge	Chief	Bureau of Energy & Technology Policy, DEEP	N
Keri Enright-Kato	Director	DEEP Office of Climate Change, Technology & Research	Y
Jeff Howard	Environmental Analyst	DEEP Office of Climate Change, Technology & Research	Y
Paul Miller	Deputy Director & Chief Scientist	Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management	Y (phone)

AGENDA & NOTES

Welcome & announcements

Rob Klee, Commissioner DEEP

- DEEP released final version of 2018 Comprehensive Energy Strategy at beginning of February.
- Governor's state of the state address included elements focusing on climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- The U.S. Climate Alliance, of which CT is member of, continues to expand its membership bringing it to now include 17 states.

Overview of Comprehensive Energy Strategy – Strategies and Legislative Proposals

Mary Sotos, DEEP

- Overview of strategies the Comprehensive Energy Strategy's 8 strategies :
 1. Ensure sustainable and equitable funding for energy efficiency.
 2. Advance market transformation of the energy efficiency industry.
 3. Grow and sustain renewable and zero-carbon generation in the state and region.
 4. Expand deployment of all cost-effective distributed generation ("behind the meter") in a sustainable manner.
 5. Continue to improve grid reliability and resiliency through state and regional efforts.
 6. Reduce transportation greenhouse gas emissions by accelerating the adoption of low- and zero-emission vehicles and strengthening alternative-fueling infrastructure.
 7. Increase mobility, connectivity, and accessibility by advancing smart-growth, mixed-use transit-oriented development, and innovative transportation partnerships.
 8. Modernize the grid.
- *Energy efficiency priorities*: sustainable and equitable funding; health and safety barriers, increase business energy productivity, advance market transformation of energy efficiency;
- *Clean Energy priorities*: transition to cleaner thermal fuels and technologies; grow and sustain renewables and zero carbon electric generation; improve grid reliability and resiliency; grid modernization; deploy zero-emission vehicles (EV Roadmap)
 - increase the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) from 20% by 2020 to 40% by 2030
 - cost-effective grid-scale and behind-the-meter renewables;
 - phase down biomass and landfill gas RECs as Class I RPS resources
- Legislative priorities for the current session focus on planning and resiliency and Connecticut's energy future and include the following proposals:
 - 45% GHG Reduction by 2030
 - 40% Class I RPS by 2030
 - Science-based climate resiliency planning

- Cost effective distributed generation programs
- Commitment to Energy Efficiency and the CT Green Bank

Discussion on Statement of Principles

Robert Klee, Commissioner of DEEP, GC3 Chair

- Review of the agreed upon themes that emerged:
 - Modernize and transform the building, electric, and transportation sectors.
 - Largest and least-cost reduction measures that are proven and scalable.
 - Co-benefits such as improved health, economic development, energy security and independence, and quality of life.
 - Fairness, equity, justice, and intergenerational costs.
 - Engagement of all levels of government, private sector, individual citizens, civic organizations, religious groups, non-governmental organizations, and other members of civil society
 - Maximize synergies between mitigation and adaptation measures
 - Regular review process
- Discussion and comments on Principles focused on:
 - balance between cost-effectiveness and achievement of non-energy benefits/co-benefits and equity
 - clear prioritization, with limited resources in mind, on cost-effectiveness and GHG emissions reductions
 - agreed upon revisions and wordsmithing of language
- DEEP will send around principles with updates for one more review to finalize.
- Principles to be included in the final report.

Framework for Final GC3 Report

Keri Enright-Kato, CT DEEP

- Objective here is to discuss the proposed framework of what we envision for the final report, including the audience and what the final report should include.
 - Achieve a 45% reduction in GHG emissions.
 - Coordinate and leverage existing and ongoing efforts and identify a suite of new policy options to accomplish the State's climate goals
 - Ensure the state is on a sustainable path to achieve its 2050 vision of reducing GHG emissions 80% below 2001 levels.
 - Emphasizes that there is no single solution but rather a balanced mix of strategies that lead to meaningful emission reductions and which provide the greatest level of certainty in meeting the state's GHG reduction targets.
 - Include sector specific targets and a suite of policy options to meet the state's 2030 mid-term target.

- Should signal government, private sector, non-governmental organizations, and individuals to implement actions that align with recommended sector-specific GHG reductions targets and strategies.
- For example, a private company or a university can look to the framework for guidance and goal setting for the transportation sector, which signals vehicle electrification — influencing decisions about new fleet purchases and prompting adoption of electric vehicles.
- Review proposed timeline of meetings and drafting of the report through release date in August.
- Discussion and comments from GC3 members focused on:
 - Ensuring action is taken on the biggest problems/GHG emissions
 - Implementing entities should be provided with clear direction on priority actions
 - Relationship between CES and the climate framework
 - Emphasis to include actionable recommendations
 - Different than the 2005 Climate Action Plan, less check-list oriented allowing for strategies to adjust as conditions change
 - Provide suite of recommendations that give clear guidance and direction rather than detailed directives
 - Sector emissions reduction target ranges
 - Potential to run a final REMI analysis depends on remaining GC3 budget

Discussion on Near-Term Opportunities and Mid-Term GHG Reduction Policy

Robert Klee, Commissioner of DEEP, GC3 Chair,

- Transportation Climate Initiative
 - Since 2011, CT has participated in Transportation Climate Initiative, a multi-state collaborative to promote the development of sustainable communities, reduce freight emissions, and coordination and planning of alternative vehicle fueling infrastructure.
 - Recently several participating states have been exploring regional policies to improve transportation systems and reduce carbon emissions and other pollutants from the transportation sector.
 - In November, a bipartisan group of seven states and District of Columbia announced plans to further explore regional policy solutions by engaging with communities and businesses to discuss opportunities and benefits that could be achieved from coordinated state action.
 - There will be several listening sessions across region to help states understand the public's vision, ideas, and solutions and to collect input on preferred policy options. DEEP proposes that GC3 co-host a listening session here in CT in April or May, building on previous stakeholder events.
 - GC3 agrees to co-host and help organize a listening session.

- CTRides Drive Less Competition
 - CT Rides is holding a month-long competition in May: employers and individuals compete for recognition and prizes for reducing use of private vehicles for commuting in order to reduce VMT and auto emissions.
 - DOT and DEEP have committed to participating in program. Are others around the table willing to take on the challenge for their agencies/organizations?
 - This includes actively promoting use of alternative commuting modes through internal communications, marketing and in-house events using the support and resources of CTRides.
- Homework to prepare for policy discussion at next meeting in March:
 - Review policy resource document developed by the Yale student team. The document includes current federal and state policies and potential new policies to consider.
 - Provide feedback on policies that may be missing from the resource list.
 - Interest in focusing on 4-5 actions/recommendations for each sector

Public Comments

Huân M. Ngô

- GC3 should have a public health representative to help it address climate change implications for resilience planning, emergency response, health infrastructure, healthcare costs; etc. This should be emphasized in council's report.

Mike Papa

- Petroleum spills threaten ecological systems. Environmentally induced chronic disease needs greater emphasis. Fuel cells need greater emphasis.

Henry Link, Enviro Energy Connections

- Question: How much funding for microgrids?
 - \$30 million.
- Question: Where would \$35 million for distributed generation come from? Answer from Sotos: ratepayer funding.
- Question: Grid modernization means smart meters, etc.? Answer from Sotos: Yes.
- Concern about security vulnerabilities of smart meters. Response from Wnuck: PURA docket 17-12-03 will address this concern.

NOTE: Slides are available on GC3 web page: www.ct.gov/deep/gc3