

Howard, Jeff (DEEP)

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Sent: Friday, July 10, 2015 9:55 PM
To: DEEP ClimateChange
Subject: oral comments by George Rawitscher

Oral comments made at the meeting of the Governor's Council on Climate Change, 7/10/2015

by George Rawitscher, 343 Codfishfalls Rd, Storrs, CT 06268 860 429 3107

1. Urgency: The time available to implement the changes needed for mitigation and adaptation to the impending climate change is between 15 to 20 years. The plea to the members of the GC3 Council is to take their mission seriously and urgently;

2. Reliance on natural gas: Recent studies have shown that the pernicious climate change impact of natural gas is approximately the same as that of coal, if the methane leaks and if the sulfur oxides emitted by coal are included in the comparison.. These methane leaks occur during the process of extraction of the gas from the earth, together with the storage and the transportation to the point of combustion. This commentator is therefore surprised that the DEEP considers natural gas as a beneficial method to bridge the gap between fossil fuels such as oil and coal and renewable energies.

3. Sources of funding. In order to implement the changes proposed by the GC3, it is important to also make recommendations to the Governor for appropriate sources of funding, especially including actions requested by towns in Connecticut.

4. Carbon fee. I believe that imposing a carbon fee on the harvesting of fossil fuels is a effective method to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as well as to stimulate the development of sources of renewable energy.