

**Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)  
Leadership, Accountability, Engagement Working Group  
MEETING MINUTES**

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**Meeting Date:** November 17, 2015, 2015

**Meeting Time:** 1:00 p.m. —3:00 p.m.

**Meeting Location:**  
Connecticut Green Bank  
845 Brook St, Rocky Hill, CT

## ATTENDANCE

Working Group Members	Title	Organization	Present
Bryan Garcia (co-chair)	President and Chief Executive Officer	CT Green Bank	Y
Scott Jackson (co-chair)	Under Secretary for Intergovernmental Policy	Office of Policy Management	Y
Jay Bruns (on behalf of David Robinson)	Environment Champion	The Hartford	N
John Humphries	Organizer	CT Round Table on Climate & Jobs	Y
Shannon Laun (on behalf of Don Strait)	Energy & Environment Attorney	Connecticut Fund for the Environment	Y
Melody Currey	Commissioner	Department of Administrative Services	Y
Lynn Stoddard	Director	Institute for Sustainable Energy	Y
George Bradner (on behalf of Katherine Wade)	Director, The Property and Casualty Division	Department of Insurance	Y
Hermia Delaire (on behalf of Evonne Klein)	Program Manager	Department of Housing	Y

Associated Staff	Title	Organization	Present
Keri Enright-Kato	Director	DEEP Office of Climate Change, Technology & Research	Y
Jeff Howard	Environmental Analyst	DEEP Office of Climate Change, Technology & Research	Y
Theresa McCarty	Student	Yale University	Y
Monica DiLeo	Student	Yale University	Y
Matt Macunas	Legislative Liaison & Marketing Manager	CT Green Bank	Y

## AGENDA & NOTES

### Welcome and review of meeting agenda

*Bryan Garcia, LAE Working Group Co-Chair*

- Introductory remarks and review of the agenda
  - LAE Working Group Report Framework
    - Commissioner Klee announced at the full Council meeting that he will request an extension on delivering the GC3 Exploratory Report.
  - List of organizations that the Yale student team intends to interview
  - Stakeholder Workshop categories and invitees
  - Review leadership criteria definitions
    - Definitions have been distributed to group members but a reminder will be sent out, as well as a deadline for feedback.

- In future meetings “New items” will be included in the agenda for working group members to submit items they would like to be discussed.
- Public comments will be heard during the final portion of the agenda.

### **Review and discuss Stakeholder Engagement Workshop planning efforts**

*Scott Jackson, LAE Working Group Co-Chair*

- Review of workshop objectives
- Date and time of workshop
  - Two sessions on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> an afternoon and an evening session.
  - Both sessions will be the same experience, the separate sessions are offered to incorporate schedules and get maximum participation.
  - Discussed categories of anticipated participants and the number of RSVP's thus far.
  - DEEP staff are reaching out via phone to check in with those who have not responded and will also begin opening the registration to others.
  - DEEP will offer to assist with coordinating carpool opportunities for the event.
- Third party facilitation will be conducted by Bill Logue who has extensive experience designing and facilitating stakeholder engagement workshops. He is also contracted to synthesize the information elicited from the workshop and develop a final report.

### **Presentation from the Hartford on their leadership to address climate change**

*Jay Bruns, The Hartford*

- Why does The Hartford get involved with reducing its GHG emissions?
  - The company believes in doing the right thing, from the CEOs to the individual employees. The Hartford is listed as one of the world's most ethical companies.
  - Many “push” factors from: the employees, shareholders, regulators, and potential customers.
  - There is also a business benefit to pursuing these ideas
- In 2007, The Hartford decided to report to the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP). They issued a climate change statement and internally created an environment committee that David Robinson chairs. The committee is chaired at a very high level with 18 members from across all divisions/departments of the company. Formal meetings occur quarterly; however, many activities occur outside of the formal meetings. This structure has been working well.
- Description of key activities, accomplishments, and milestones:
  - The Hartford has met its first two GHG reduction targets and has moved on to its third.
  - Consolidated nine data centers to two.
  - A survey of how employees commute to work has been completed. This aligned with CDP scope 3 requirements as well as helping the company determine the best way to encourage employees to participate in the alternative commuter challenge.
  - Purchasing green energy since 2011
  - In 2013, made a commitment that 15% of vehicles going forward would be hybrids. Hope to meet that goal by the end of next year.
  - Installed six EV charging stations across the campuses and have plans to install more
  - Help their customers go green by adding a variety of green products (ex: premium discount on EVs and hybrids)
  - Focus on reduced paper use; savings of about \$9 million a year on reducing paper being sent out
  - \$250 million invested in utility grade solar, wind, and hydro projects
  - HEAT TEAM - Hartford Environmental Action Team

- All Connecticut campuses are National Wildlife Federation certified national wildlife habitats
- Member of the U.S. Department of Energy Workplace Charging Station Challenge and their Better Buildings Challenge
- Received a grade of “A” from the CDP

#### *Questions and comments*

- When you look at these types of leadership attributes, do you think there is some sort of other magical element that helps this work?
  - In the beginning we went forward a little more carefully, but when you get external recognition, people start to want to do more. That was the start of the push to constantly do more. A virtuous cycle- we get external recognition, we do more, our employees enjoy it, so the leadership says, “Let’s do more.”
- Is this information available somewhere or did you just put this together? I think this could be good to help motivate others. Are there venues in the state where you can give a similar presentation to your peers and have a similar discussion to them?
  - There is the Sustainability Report on The Hartford’s website. Other than that there isn’t a place with a nice concise description. There are various meetings, conferences, and events where people can get together and listen, learn, and discuss this sort of thing, such as the CDP meeting.
- How might you be using Facebook, Twitter, and social media to really put this stuff out there to show off The Hartford’s leadership to let others know what you’re doing? Suggest setting up a part of the website to show what you’ve been doing.
  - An 80 page write up for the CDP that has been approved by an external party is displayed on the website. The Hartford is one of two American leaders identified by CERES, environmental activist group. Had to have a score of 99 out of 100 in order to make it on the CDP list this year.
- In 2007, the shareholders start to murmur that they’d like to get some expertise in this area; did you think this would happen?
  - Knew there were some good leaders in the company and that it would be a work in progress, but decided to grab the bull by the horns and go. Try various things, and then readjust for the next year. Another key is that everything must have some sort of financial benefit as well.
- The millennials coming into the company seem to be driving this. Are you capturing this in interviews, benefit packages, or online? Is The Hartford the only one seeing this?
  - The Hartford is not the only one seeing this. At various times HR was giving out a one page advertisement and it was something that everyone was interested in, not just young people.
- Competition is a natural feature. Anywhere this information can be promoted to other groups? Anything the state can do to recognize you? Would recognition add to it?
  - The fact that The Hartford was invited and chosen to be a part of the GC3 is significant. The EPA, Dow Jones, etc. are interested in that kind of recognition.
- The United Nations Environment Program has done a lot. However, there is an absence of American industry sitting around the table in Europe. It would be good to get the American insurance industry more involved in the discussion. PSI sustainable insurance is doing a lot of good things; however they charge a yearly fee which makes it rather expensive.
- When seeking new customers, are you gauging whether or not sustainability practices are something people are looking for?

- Not much time has been spent looking at that. Selling is mostly done through agents, but there has been more talk with the agents.
- With some of the green initiatives, are there issues you've seen with solar panels, etc., such as the structural integrity of a building with solar panels on the roof when a hurricane comes, can those structures hold through the wind?
  - Obviously want to have strong building standards. Never received any critical comments on that sort of thing. Don't believe it's an issue, but could be an emerging one.
- Many of the things that Jay mentioned should be reflected into the leadership definitions, such as: peer competition, corporate culture, raising the bar, grabbing the bull by the horns.
- This story and others should be included in the Exploratory Report, referencing specific items in various sections.
- Brief discussion of planning an event next year that the commissioner and the Hartford would co-host. An event similar to the one back in 2005.

### **Update from Yale student team on progress and findings**

*Theresa McCarty and Monica DiLeo, The Yale Environmental Protection Clinic, Yale University*

- Review of what their goals and objectives are
- Leadership criteria definitions review and discussion
- Status of interviews and preliminary findings
  - Have completed over 15 interviews thus far and have about 5 more to go
  - Have conducted online research for those that they have not been able to conduct an interview with.
  - Descriptions of successful leadership models they have come across thus far, such as, EPA's Green Power Partnership, Sustainable Jersey, Microsoft, and Stamford 2030 District.
    - A state recognition program could add a lot of value. It would leverage leadership that already exists to create more.
    - We Mean Business is a slightly different model – coordinated approach to move forward on their goals. Pushing everyone forward and moving as a cohesive unit.
  - Description of some of the accountability models, such as SC Johnson, Carbon Disclosure Project, Climate Registry, and ASSA Abloy.
    - Successful leaders have had a clear reporting structure and present ideas to their stakeholders and interest groups. This shows they are solving their customers' sustainability issues, which puts them at a high level amongst their customers and community.
  - Description of Engagement models including the Boston Green Ribbon Commission, Green Justice Coalition, and MomentUs.
- Discussion of the next steps
  - Will get final feedback from the group within 1 week
  - Different societal sectors will have a different set of metrics
  - Word of caution: As we create metrics, we don't want to also create a 60 page report
  - Balance good national practices with those in Connecticut. We want to take little seeds of great things and feed them and leverage them, because there is a lot of fertile ground in Connecticut.
  - Will be using graphics to help with visualizations. So far have been creating an internal graphic to help prioritize, but haven't done many external graphics. Will use the CT Green Bank's marketing team to help with them.

**Discussion: What does Leading by Example in the transportation sector look like in CT?**

*Bryan Garcia, LAE Working Group Chair*

- Description of DEEP's Lead by Example (LBE) program and example of LBE in Massachusetts.
- Discussion of how state agencies, municipalities, non-profits, and businesses should lead by example
  - What are we doing already?
    - EV charging stations (& DOE charging challenge)
    - Carpooling, telecommuting
    - Incentives/support for T.O.D.?
    - Tracking employee transit emissions
    - State employee transit discount
    - CT Transit smart fare structure
    - Car sharing programs
  - What resources do we have?
    - EV charging stations
  - What resources do we need?
    - State planning for land use
    - Plan of Conservation & Development may be sufficient
    - GHG reductions could be required in regional planning – a la CA's SB375
    - Fee-based system for vehicle sales based on fuel efficiency
    - Stronger procurement standards
    - Tracking of EV charging station use
    - Retrofitting of EV charging during renovations of buildings and lots
  - How can we make efforts widespread?
    - Honor companies that move closer to public transit
    - Follow up on and nail down the state employee bus discount; make it better known
    - Create a contest amongst agencies

**Public comments**

*Joel Gordes, Environmental Energy Solutions:*

Thank you Jay for showing what the insurers are doing and what they have done. (a) Ice dams. In most cases the damage from ice dams is due to heat escaping from the home. This is the nexus of the insurance industry with climate change. Have the insurance companies access our Energy Efficiency programs so ice dams are not a repeatable problem. (b) When a house is being built, the insurance company should come out and advise removing peaks in the roof and advise the orientation of the house so that it can better suit PV panels. (c) Cyber threats. Using small generators closer to the load makes for a more secure network. (d) UTC has a new jet engine that is 17% more efficient than other jet engines. Why don't we encourage that there is a reward for taking the right action. There is a lot that we can be doing.

*Mike Morris, State Director to the Propane Gas Association:*

It is important to get statistics on propane and GHG emissions. Sent Dr. Howard a 52 page study. Propane is amongst the most attractive options and emits the least amount of carbon. Want to create better awareness of propane. Want to make the state of CT more aware of it.

***Additional Comments from GC3 Members***

*Lynn Stoddard:*

The President is interested in showing different leaders on the momentum of climate change. The White House has reached out to universities to sign a White House Campus Climate Pledge. This will be announced Thursday. There are at least 5 CT Universities that have jumped on to sign this. This is an amazing opportunity for our governor to jump on as well.

The White house is also working on a business pledge.

**NOTE:** *Slides are available on GC3 web page: [www.ct.gov/deep/gc3](http://www.ct.gov/deep/gc3)*