

**Agenda**  
**Climate Protection and Green Economy Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**September 16, 2008**

- 10:00 Introduction  
Status update  
Update on Adaptation Advisory Committee
- 10:10 Analysis of GHG reductions and costs achievable with existing policies
- Descriptions of these policies are available on this Advisory Committee's page of MassDEP's website at  
<http://www.mass.gov/dep/public/committee/ghgpols.pdf>
- 10:20 Context for developing the 2020 Emissions Target and Reduction Plan:  
80% reduction by 2050  
Creating a prosperous clean energy future – business growth, green jobs, affordable living costs, equity, economic growth  
Economic Context  
State budget challenges  
Transportation re-organization  
Possible federal actions/international context
- 10:30 Discussion of Cross-cutting Themes  
Explore cross-cutting themes discussed below (10-15 minutes each)
- 12:00 Establishing Subcommittees  
Charge  
Provide analytic framework for theme  
Provide insights into use in modeling exercise  
Provide analysis of models from other states/jurisdictions  
Participation
- 12:30 Close

## Cross-cutting Themes

- A. **Market-based approaches** - The authorizing statute allows consideration of market-based approaches<sup>1</sup>, such as the successful Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and the current development of a regional Low Carbon Fuel Standard. Such approaches have the potential to be more efficient and cost-effective, spur technological development and provide greater flexibility. They can also raise implementation challenges and concerns about equity and local economic impacts.

**Discussion questions: What market-based approaches might be effective in the context of Massachusetts? In what sectors? What are the opportunities and challenges of market-based approaches?**

- B. **Capital markets and financing models** – Financing projects, companies, start ups, etc., to advance long-term shifts in technology development often require up-front capital costs that businesses and households are unwilling to spend in current market conditions, regardless of long-term savings or revenue.

**Discussion questions: What can government do to move private capital markets to invest in GHG reduction. What are financing models that address first-cost and other barriers to financing clean energy/climate projects. What government actions can support/facilitate/catalyze the use of such models?**

- C. **Prosperity, Productivity and Cost-cutting** – Reducing energy waste in buildings, industry and transportation will cut living costs for households and operating costs for businesses,; thereby improving living standards and stimulating the state's economy. Replacing fossil energy use with low-carbon alternatives can also help industries, such as energy efficiency, solar and wind, to grow.

**Discussion questions: How can the economic benefits from carbon reduction be maximized and the costs minimized? How can limited-income households be aided? How can green jobs made accessible to those who need them? What are the most appropriate metrics for these goals. What are the best models related to capacity building, training, and education to ensure equitable access to new jobs emerging from these investments?**

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<sup>1</sup> Chapter 21N. CLIMATE PROTECTION AND GREEN ECONOMY ACT, Section 7. (a) The secretary, in consultation with the executive office of administration and finance, may consider the use of market-based compliance mechanisms to address climate change concerns; provided, however, that prior to the use of any market-based compliance mechanism, to the extent feasible and in furtherance of achieving the statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit, the secretary shall: (1) consider the potential for direct, indirect and cumulative emission impacts from these mechanisms, including localized impacts in communities that are already adversely impacted by air pollution; (2) design any market-based compliance mechanism to prevent any increase in the emissions of toxic air contaminants or criteria air pollutants, with particular attention paid to emissions of nitrous oxide, sulfur dioxide and mercury; and (3) maximize additional environmental and economic benefits for the commonwealth, as appropriate.

- D. **Land Use Planning** – Decisions about zoning and land use have a significant impact on development patterns, travel behavior, quality of life, and the availability of open space, forests and agriculture. Over the long term, changes in development patterns are needed to ensure growth that supports an 80% GHG reduction target. In Massachusetts, most land use decisions are made independently at the local level. They can, however, be influenced by state and federal funding decisions.
- Discussion questions: What can a state plan do to incentivize local land use decisions that support the GHG reduction goals of the statute? How can the plan foster in-fill development/re-development projects? How can the state improve its regulatory framework to support redevelopment and smart growth projects? How and where can the state best encourage regional planning? Which land use approaches/policies best preserve agricultural land and forests? What land use approaches can provide both emissions mitigation as well as adaptive resilience?**
- E. **Transformational Business Models** – Moving to the clean energy future, addressing climate, and reaching a goal of 80% reduction by 2050 will require transformations across the economy, in education, in finance and in government. Private market based solutions need to be encouraged across the economy; we should assume that some services typically provided by government may be provided by business i.e. transportation. Companies such as Zip-Car and Better Place are building and implementing such transformational private businesses. In addition, consumers need information that allows them to attribute economic value to energy efficiency and lower-carbon product and service alternatives.
- Discussion questions: What transformational opportunities can be seized in business, government, education, etc.? Are there “rules of thumb” for facilitating such transformation, such as removing specific market barriers?**
- F. **Lab to Market** – Massachusetts is rich in intellectual resources, R&D capacity, university research and technical expertise. Often, moving promising research ideas to the market encounters many obstacles in terms of financing, building markets, regulatory barriers, etc.
- Discussion questions: How can the results of research be better translated to the market? What are the challenges to commercialization in Massachusetts? What are solutions to such challenges? How can we ensure that new job opportunities resulting from the growing energy efficiency and clean energy industry stay in Massachusetts?**