

**GWSA Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC)**  
**April 12, 2021, 2 PM – 3:30 PM**  
**Virtual Meeting on Windstream**

**Meeting Minutes (Approved 6.28.21)**

**Welcome**

EEA Undersecretary of Energy, Judy Chang, called the meeting to order at 2:03pm. She welcomed the IAC members, IAC delegates, and meeting observers.

**Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the November 19, 2020 meeting were discussed. Hong-Hanh Chu of EEA reviewed suggested edits made in redline via e-mail correspondence, adding the clause “particularly with respect to technology development and demonstration to address known implementation gaps, e.g., cost-effective deep-energy retrofits” to the description from Kurt Roth. Mackay Miller moved to accept minutes as amended; seconded by Eugenia Gibbons. Minutes were then unanimously approved.

**Agenda review**

Undersecretary Chang reviewed the agenda for the meeting, and called for other business to be added, of which there was none.

**Public Comments on Interim 2030 CECP**

Undersecretary Chang reviewed several slides providing background on the volume of comments received on the interim Clean Energy and Climate Plan (CECP) for 2030, the diversity of stakeholders who commented as well as range of ways public comments were submitted. Undersecretary Chang then provided summaries of the comments, starting with cross-cutting comments emphasizing a need to better focus equity into the 2030 CECP, and then key issues raised for each major sector.

Undersecretary Chang then opened the floor to discussion, which is summarized into take-aways below:

- The synthesis of public comments in the meeting slide deck will be made public;
- Next steps for finalizing the 2030 CECP are still being developed, though the recent climate legislation has a deadline of July 1, 2022;
- EEA is currently putting initial thoughts into how to improve the 2030 CECP for each sector, including:
  - o **Transportation:** continue to focus on electrification, but EEA will explore more policies to reduce vehicle miles and work with MassDOT and the utilities on other areas including charging infrastructure.
  - o **Buildings:** even though the Interim 2030 CECP is not yet finalized, EEA will be kicking off the Clean Heat Commission, which is a major initiative.
  - o **Electricity:** ongoing regional conversations will be able to contribute more detail.
  - o **Land:** EEA is taking submitted feedback very seriously and will be kicking off a comprehensive land sector analysis.

- Energy efficiency for low and moderate-income consumers were not presented in the deck, but was supported widely in the received comments and did not have opposition.
- EEA will consider highlighting the IAC recommendations more in the final CECP, but will also need to consider the impact of the new climate legislation.
- The CECP should develop or include environmental justice geographical information, including improving the MassGIS EJ Viewer.
- EEA is currently scoping the work and identifying resources to comply with new climate legislation, including the requirements to set a baseline and goals for natural and working lands carbon sequestration along with and a plan to achieve those goals.
- The Nature Conservancy has scientists on staff who may be able to assist with the natural and working land requirements, and would be happy to talk with EEA about their data and potential support.

### **New GWSA Requirements of S. 9 Legislation**

Undersecretary Chang provided an overview of the key requirements and considerations for EEA given the recent passage of the S.9 climate bill. Discussion followed and are summarized into take-aways below:

- EEA should be open and transparent in the CECP finalization, especially bringing assumptions and data back to the IAC.
- Additional time to complete the CECP should not mean a delay in implementing key elements and no-regrets policies of the Interim 2030 CECP.
- The final CECP should focus on areas that were not as robust in the Interim 2030 CECP including environmental justice and land.
- Where possible, EEA should find common points of leverage with the new federal administration, especially building energy efficiency, electrification of transportation, and workforce/labor issues. EEA will consider how to report federal updates back to the IAC.
- Natural gas was cautioned as a strategy to achieve decarbonization goals.
- More clarity is needed around “Deep” in terms of deep energy retrofit. The use of short-lived climate pollutants in refrigeration was cautioned.
- While load flexibility was addressed in the Interim 2030 CECP, there is an important need to ensure demand response and load flexibility goals are achieved.
- Costs and benefit analyses need to accurately represent and value all relevant benefits – i.e., improved health outcomes from air quality improvements.
- An appropriate framework to guide cost-benefit analysis is important. Mass Audubon can help weigh in on the benefit and economic analysis, especially on the land side.
- Mass Audubon wants to help EEA get more funds to do the work ahead.
- The IAC should meet quarterly to be more consistent. The IAC can be both a body to give updates as well as take advantage of the working group meetings to gather input on interim or incomplete products.
- EEA should be more intentional about engaging with IAC and other stakeholders, including the sequencing of IAC and other stakeholder meetings.
- EEA engage with other stakeholder bodies besides the IAC, such as the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council (EEAC) and their Equity group, EEA’s EJ Task Force, and the TCI-P Equity group.

- Over the next year, it would be helpful to have a healthy dialogue on existing initiatives and implemented activities as the CECP is finalized.

**General Public Comments**

Members of the public attending the meeting:

- asked about measuring and verifying emissions reductions
- expressed concern that local zoning ordinances are at odds with the CECP
- expressed concern that land may be protected from solar development but not housing development

**Adjournment**

Undersecretary Chang thanked all meeting attendees and confirmed that EEA hears clearly the desire for more regular engagement and making information more visible. She also expressed appreciation for the many offers of support expressed from IAC members.

Sarah Simon moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Eugenia Gibbons.

Meeting adjourned at 3:35pm.

**Documents or exhibits used at the meeting (posted online<sup>1</sup>):**

1. Meeting Agenda
2. Meeting Minutes of November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020<sup>2</sup>
3. Meeting Slides

**Attendance**

IAC Member/Delegates in attendance

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>A Better City (ABC)</b>	Kate Dineen
<b>Boston University</b>	Cutler Cleveland
<b>City of Boston</b>	Carl Spencer
<b>Conservation Law Foundation (CLF)</b>	<i>absent</i>
<b>Dismas House / Commonwealth Green Low Income Housing Coalition</b>	David McMahon
<b>Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2)</b>	Sarah Simons
<b>Environmental League of Massachusetts (ELM)</b>	Elizabeth Henry
<b>Eversource</b>	Catherine Finneran
<b>Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems (CSE)</b>	Kurt Roth
<b>Health Care Without Harm</b>	Eugenia Gibbons
<b>Mass Audubon</b>	Michelle Manion
<b>Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)</b>	Sebastian Eastham

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.mass.gov/event/april-12-2021-meeting-of-the-gwsa-implementation-advisory-committee-iac-2021-04-12t140000-0400-2021-04-12t153000-0400>

<sup>2</sup> Posted at <https://www.mass.gov/event/november-19-2020-meeting-of-the-gwsa-implementation-advisory-committee-iac-2020-11-19t093000>

<b>Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC)</b>	Jason Viadero
<b>Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)</b>	Rebecca Davis
<b>National Grid</b>	Mackay Miller
<b>Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC)</b>	Peter Rothstein
<b>The Nature Conservancy (TNC)</b>	Steve Long
<b>Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS)</b>	<i>absent</i>

Others in attendance (Note: this may not capture all attendees)

<b>Affiliation (if any)</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>DOER</b>	Alexis Washburn
	Allan Fierce
<b>EEA</b>	Andrew Kimball
<b>CLF</b>	Andrew Yarrows
<b>MassCEC</b>	Ariel Horowitz
<b>Town of Stow</b>	Arnie Epstein
	Barbara Tinker
	Brianna Rockwell
<b>EEA</b>	Benjamin Miller
<b>MAPC</b>	Cammy Peterson
<b>Pipe Line Awareness Network for the Northeast (PLAN)</b>	Cathy Kristofferson
<b>DOER</b>	Catie Snyder
<b>DOER</b>	Chelsea Kehne
<b>Mass Forest Alliance</b>	Chris Egan
	Chris Riddle
<b>MassDEP</b>	Christine Kirby
<b>EEA</b>	Claire Miziolek
<b>EEA</b>	Dan Gatti
<b>Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corporation</b>	Danilo Morales
<b>Sierra Club MA</b>	David Heimann
<b>Sierra Club</b>	David Zeek
<b>Acadia Center</b>	Deb Donovan
<b>MassCEC</b>	Elizabeth Cleveland
<b>DOER</b>	Eric Friedman
<b>MassCEC</b>	Galen Nelson
<b>Barnstable</b>	Gordon Starr
<b>EEA</b>	Hong-Hanh Chu
<b>DOER</b>	Ian Finlayson
<b>A Better City (ABC)</b>	Isabella Gambill
<b>MASCO Inc.</b>	Janice Henderson
	Jeffrey Clark
<b>NECEC</b>	Jeremy McDiarmid
<b>DOER</b>	Joanna Troy
	John

<b>EEA</b>	Judy Chang
<b>National Grid</b>	Judith Judson
<b>Sustainable Energy Advantage</b>	Justin Linder
<b>Green Energy Consumers Alliance</b>	Kai Salem
<b>DPU</b>	Kate Tohme
<b>Green Energy Consumers Alliance</b>	Larry Chretien
<b>DOER</b>	MaggieMcCarey
<b>DOER</b>	Marian Swain
<b>DPU</b>	Megan Wu
<b>Energy Efficiency Association</b>	Mike Duclos
<b>Environmental League of MA</b>	Nancy Goodman
<b>350 Mass</b>	Philip Vergragt
<b>MassCEC</b>	Peter McPhee
	Roy Harvey
<b>EEA</b>	Rishi Reddi
<b>MassDOT</b>	Stephen Woelfel
<b>MassCEC</b>	Steve Pike
	Tina Growsowsky
<b>Sierra Club</b>	Veena Dharmaraj
<b>MassDEP</b>	Will Space