



# GWSA Implementation Advisory Committee Meeting

April 12, 2021

2:00PM – 3:30M

**New IAC Chair:** Judy Chang, EEA Undersecretary of Energy



# Agenda

- Review draft meeting minutes of November 19, 2020
- Key themes/topics from received comments on the Interim Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2030 (2030 CECP)
  - Discussion of EEA's plan to address these key themes/topics in the finalized 2030 CECP
- New GWSA requirements with “Next Generation Roadmap” legislation (S.9)
  - Discussion of the process to develop and finalize the 2025 & 2030 limits, sublimits, and roadmap plans
- Other IAC business
- Public comment

# Key Themes/Topics from Received Comments on the Interim 2030 CECP

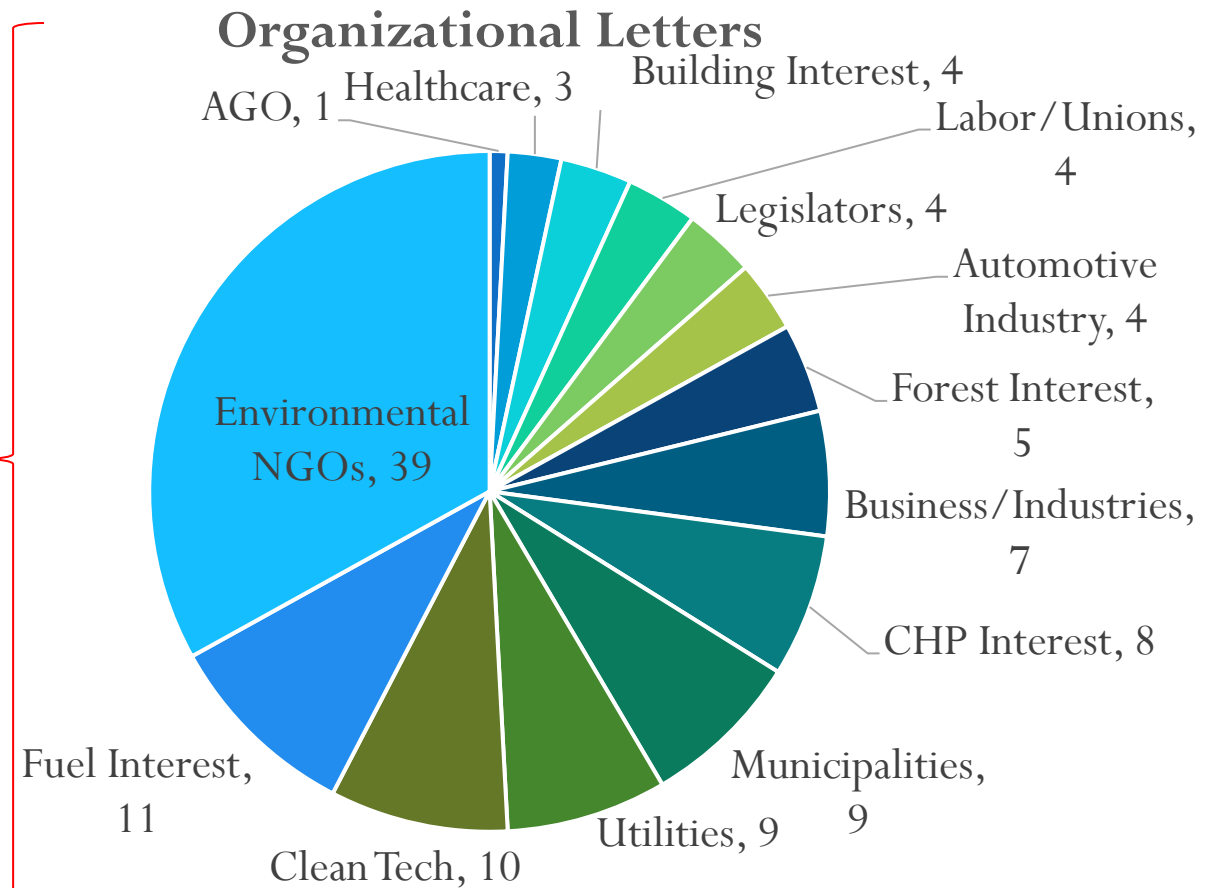
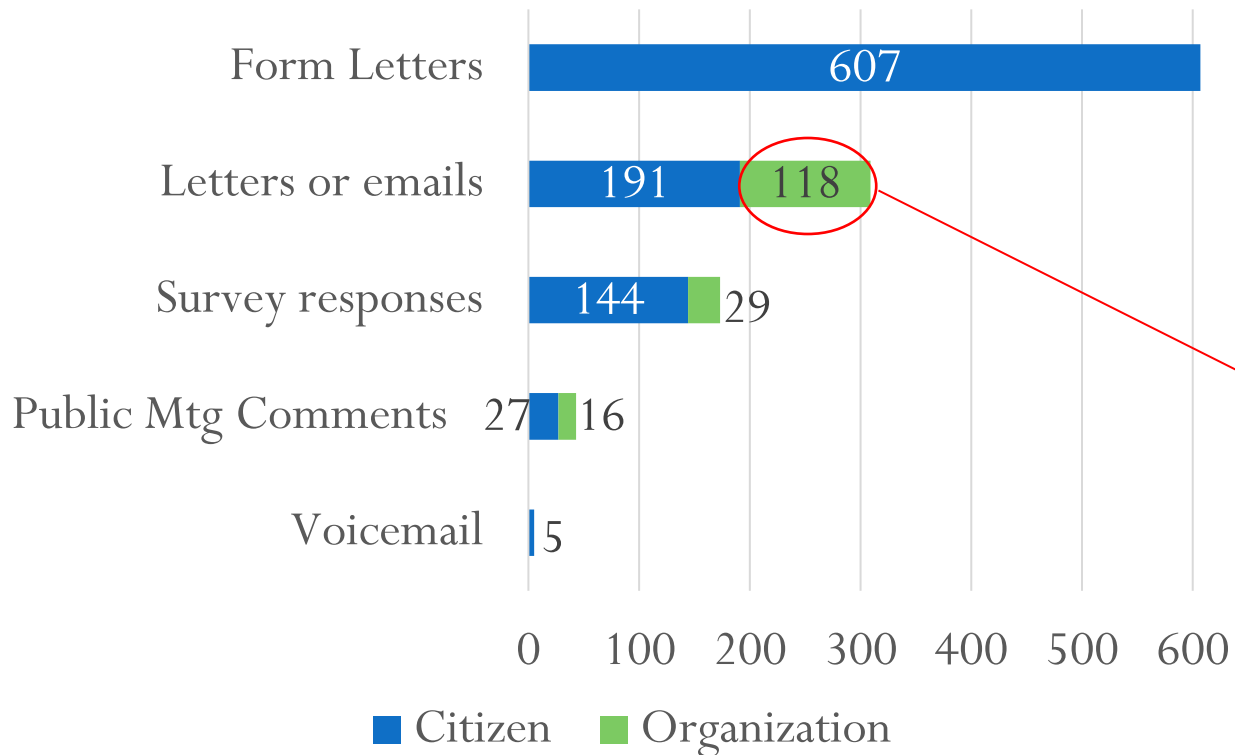
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# Summary of Comments (1 of 2)

- Public comments were open from 1/6/2021-3/22/2021
- Highlights
  - Over 1,100 comments received
  - 2 public meetings hosted with 338 attendees
  - Comments from over 50 cities/towns/planning agencies
    - A few joint comments with many municipalities represented
  - 3 groups of “form letters”, plus several advocacy comments
    - Mass Audubon organized letter
    - Environmental justice focused letter
    - Canadian hydropower focused letter

# Summary of Comments (2 of 2)

## Breakdown of Total Responses



# Key Issues from Comments: Cross-Cutting

- Significant support for 50% by 2030
- Advocates, citizens, municipalities, labor groups, and industries/businesses consistently raised the need for more commitment and specificity around:
  1. Equity and EJ in policy and support
  2. Just transition/workforce development and training programs, for both workers in fossil-based industries/businesses and environmental justice populations to build pipelines to high quality and family-sustaining jobs
  3. Funding and financing programs to support decarbonization

# Key Issues from Comments: Transportation (1 of 2)

- **Public transit policy & investment**
  - Many advocates and citizens asked for continued support and/or expansion of public transportation infrastructure and services.
- **Light-duty Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)**
  - Several advocates and citizens prefer a commitment to reducing light-duty VMT, not just stabilize it.
- **Zero emission vehicles (ZEV), incentives**
  - Several advocates and citizens prefer sooner and broader electrification, including explicit goals for classes of vehicles to be fully electrified (for example: 100% transit & school buses by 2030).
  - Several advocates prefer ZEV incentives to be at point of sale, and more incentives for low- and-moderate income consumers.

# Key Issues from Comments: Transportation (2 of 2)

- **TCI-P**
  - Several advocates and citizens prefer TCI-P to be implemented sooner & would like 70% of auction proceeds to go to EJ communities.
- **Electric vehicle (EV) charging**
  - Advocates and automobile industry requests for more explicit commitment to EV charging infrastructure build out (including explicit goal for # of charging stations).
- **Others requests include support for:**
  - Transit oriented development
  - Bike/Pedestrian infrastructure
  - E-bikes
  - Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicles
  - Pods (alternative form of ZEV transportation)



# Key Issues from Comments: Buildings (1 of 2)

- **Net Zero building codes**
  - Some advocates ask for statewide, mandatory Net Zero codes sooner (i.e. 2025).
  - Some industries/businesses are concerned about costs and prefer delaying in statewide implementation of Net Zero code.
  - Real Estate associations oppose allowing municipalities to opt-in—want uniform, statewide code.
- **MassSave incentives relating to fossil fuel-based equipment**
  - Several advocates ask to end MassSave incentives for fossil fuel-based equipment immediately (not 2024).
  - Gas utilities, fuel providers, and Combined Heat and Power (CHP) companies state that abandoning fossil fuel incentives is premature.
- **Coordination with DPU 20-80 docket**
  - Several advocates expressed concerns that gas utility 20-80 plans will not be consistent with the 2050 Roadmap findings/decarbonization.

# Key Issues from Comments: Buildings (2 of 2)

- **Electrification vs. fuel blending and Renewable Natural Gas (RNG)**
  - Some industries/businesses are concerned about the pace of electrifying heating is not feasible; and advocate that other heating options like biofuels, hydrogen, RNG should be incentivized.
  - Some advocates prefer that the potential future use of biofuels or RNG/hydrogen would not delay electrifying heating.
- **Geothermal Micro Districts**
  - Some entities recommended pursuing using existing gas infrastructure to develop geothermal micro-districts, including utility pilots.
- **Other topics include :**
  - Ban on gas leaf blowers
  - Support for CHP

# Key Issues from Comments: Energy Supply (1 of 2)

- **Renewable energy**

- Many advocates prefer to increase Clean Energy Standard (CES) to 100% renewable by 2035.
- An advocate suggested that regional standard for RPS & CES instead of state-by-state
- Some energy companies requested for more on-grid connected storage & pumped hydro storage.

- **Offshore wind (OSW)**

- Some advocates prefer 6 GW of OSW by 2030.
- Some emphasize the importance of OSW projects to minimize environmental impacts.

- **Solar**

- Solar companies and some advocates pushed for 9.3 GW of solar by 2030.
- Many advocates expressed concerns with the land use impact of ground-mount solar projects and prefer more solar on developed/brownfield areas.

# Key Issues from Comments: Energy Supply (2 of 2)

- **Biomass combustion**

- Many advocates, the AGO, a state rep, and some citizens asked to end incentives/credit for biomass combustion.

- **Hydroelectricity**

- Several advocates oppose procurement of hydroelectric resources from Canada.
- Some energy companies prefer pumped hydro as energy storage.

- **Waste Combustion (see Non-Energy Emissions)**

- **Other topics include:**

- Infrastructure siting, especially in EJ communities
- Rate protections, especially for low-and-moderate income customers remaining on natural gas

# Key Issues from Comments: Non-Energy Emissions

- **Gas leak accounting**
  - Several stakeholders think the current EPA/MassDEP accounting for gas leaks needs to be updated.
- **SF6 regulations**
  - Utilities flagged that as more electricity infrastructure is built, it may be challenging to meet the SF6 regulations.
- **Waste Combustion**
  - Several citizens, advocates, and the Legislative Zero Waste Caucus pushed back against any continued incineration of waste. Some pushed for a plan to close facilities.
- **Other topics that were raised:**
  - Propane as HFC replacement

# Key Issues from Comments: Land Use

- **Forest management**
  - Some advocates prefer no tree cutting, especially on public lands.
  - Others prefer climate-smart forestry practices, acknowledging dynamic forest ecosystem, and better accounting of forest carbon flow (such as leakage).
- **Harvested long-lived wood products**
  - Several groups advocated that wood building products are lower-carbon than concrete and steel, and recommended use of embodied carbon in evaluating building materials.
  - Other advocates raised concerns about the cutting of trees for timber products and need to account for lifecycle of mass timber.
- **Carbon sequestration and land goals**
  - Some advocates prefer specific goals for biogenic carbon sequestration and/or conservation, reforestation, and restoration of natural and working lands, including metrics for measuring progress.
- **Urban tree planting**
  - Some advocates prefer explicit commitment to maintaining and increasing urban tree canopy, particularly in EJ communities.
- **Stakeholder engagement**
  - Several advocates and forestry groups prefer more stakeholder engagement around land sector analysis and policies.
- **Other topic raised:** wetlands and blue carbon

# Addressing Key Themes/Topics from Received Comments in Finalized 2030 CECP

- Developing strategies, policies, and programs that can help Massachusetts reach 50% emissions reduction by 2030, with more specificity and timebound commitments
- Significantly expand discussion of and commitment to equity and just transition (including workforce development)
- Address progress tracking
- Consider public consultation and stakeholder engagement

# New GWSA requirements of “Next Generation Roadmap” legislation (S.9)

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# New Requirements for 2025 & 2030 Plans

- **Consultation**

- Consult HED & MassDOT for sector-based sublimits (Section 3A)
- Consult MassDEP & DOER to adopt 2050 limit & interim limits (every 5 years) (Section 3)
- Consult “all state agencies and regional authorities (?) with jurisdiction over sources of GHG” on all elements of limits, sublimits, and roadmap plans (Section 4)

- **Additional Sections/Considerations**

- GHG goals and programs in other states and nations
- Total costs and benefits (economic and others) using best available econ models, emission estimation techniques, and other scientific methods
- Regs or other measures undertaken (incl. distribution of emissions allowances) are equitable, minimize costs, maximize the total benefits to the commonwealth, and encourage GHG emissions reductions
- Consistencies across other air quality standards and emissions
- All other benefits including air pollutants, energy source diversification, etc.
- Administrative burden of implementation
- Emissions leakage
- Quantification and verification

# New Requirements for 2025 & 2030 Plans

- **Public Process**

- Conduct public hearings on all interim limits, the 2050 limit, and accompanying roadmap plans
  - A portion of “these workshops” in regions that have the most significant exposure to air pollutants, including minority and low-income communities
- All modeling and analyses be made public, but can protect confidential information

- **Sublimits**

- Sum of sublimits will not exceed statewide limit
- Sublimits for:
  - Electric power
  - Transportation
  - Residential heating and cooling
  - Commercial and industrial heating and cooling
  - Industrial processes
  - Natural gas distribution service
  - Others

# New Requirements for 2025 & 2030 Plans

- **“Comprehensive, clear, and specific” roadmap plan to realize each limit**
  - Each roadmap plan shall be consistent with each other, cumulative in effect, to realize the 2050 GHG limit
  - For each sector how to realize 2050 limit
  - Develop a Natural and Working Lands Plan
  - Quantify the emissions reductions from electric & gas energy efficiency programs
- **Numerical benchmark & tracking for emissions reduction products, solutions, and improvements used to achieve GHG limits & sublimits**
  - EVs
  - EV charging stations
  - Solar PV and thermal
  - Offshore wind
  - Carbon sequestration
  - Energy storage
  - Heat pumps
  - Anaerobic digestion

# New Requirements for 2025 & 2030 Plans

- **Natural and Working Lands (NWL)**
  - Contain a statewide baseline measurement & measure current carbon flux on NWL
  - Adopt statewide goals to reduce GHG emissions & increase carbon sequestration on NWL
  - Develop a NWL plan for each roadmap plan, including:
    - Outline actions to meet statewide goals, including land protection, management, restoration, legislation, laws, regulations, programs, grants, loans, incentives, public-private partnerships
    - Provide guidance & strategies for state agencies, authorities, municipalities, regional planning agencies, nonprofit organizations, landowners, and operators
  - The NWL baseline, goal, and plan shall be integrated into the inventory, baseline assessment, plan, and reporting requirements
  - NWL baselines, goals, and plans shall be consistent with state climate change adaptation and resiliency policies
  - NWL plan shall be developed and informed by a stakeholder process

# New Requirements for 2025 & 2030 Plans

- **Deadlines**

- 2025 & 2030 emissions limits, sublimits, and roadmap plans shall be adopted and published by July 1, 2022
- Each "roadmap plan" shall be filed with:
  - Both houses
  - Committees on Ways and Means
  - Joint committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy
  - Joint committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture

# IAC Discussion

- Input for the CECF for 2025 and 2030
- Suggestions of how the IAC would like to be involved

# Other IAC Business

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# Public Comments

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