

GWSA Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC)
September 30, 2020, 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Virtual Meeting on Windstream
Final Meeting Minutes (Approved 10/22/2020)

Welcome

Undersecretary David Ismay called the meeting to order at 1:02. He welcomed the IAC members/delegates and non-IAC viewers and laid out guidelines for participation in the virtual meeting.

Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the August 7th meeting was unanimously approved with an amendment to correct the misspelling of Staci Rubin's first name.

State Agency Updates

Sharon Weber of MassDEP provided three updates:

- MassDEP is [re-promulgating the declining caps of 3.10 CMR 7.74](#). The regulation also has a full program review in 2021.
- MassDEP is [publishing for review and comment 310 CMR 7.76](#), regulating and phasing out HFCs (~5% of statewide greenhouse gas emissions). There will be a public hearing on October 23, and public comment is open until November 3.
- The Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI) continues to make progress—most recently hosting an equity-focused webinar with more than 500 participants.

Discussion of IAC Work Group Recommendations for the MA Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2030 (2030 CECP)

Undersecretary Ismay explained that the five IAC Work Groups (WG) had prepared their top 6 policy priorities for EEA's consideration for the 2030 CECP. The lead of each work group shared their policy priorities (see meeting slide deck and meeting materials) which are meant to complement their broad policy recommendations in August of 2019. Question and answers between the IAC followed, summarized and synthesized below:

- The ordering of the policy priorities was based on voting order, so it represents implicit prioritization but not a formal ranking.
- The preamble included important content for which the work groups wanted to express support. Some of these are specific and/or foundational policies that the work group members assume are already priorities for EEA. Some are strategies or core principles that guide the policy prioritization of the work groups.
- Non-GHG co-pollutant emissions are considerations in assessing co-benefits of climate mitigation policies.
- The Electric Sector WG's policy priority #4 was meant to be applied to the larger electricity system that EEA/DPU regulates, not just related to state facilities and its own infrastructure planning.

- The Electric Sector WG’s policy priority #5 was more directed at the life-cycle carbon implications of biomass and municipal solid combustion than at the co-benefits of ceasing such combustion.
- The Buildings Sector WG’s policy priority #1, specifically buildings performance standard, is conceptualized as being on a per-building or per-square-foot basis or as an on-bill carbon emission fee.
- Ocean ecosystems were looked at and addressed to some extent in the Nature-Based Solutions WG’s policy priority category #2, but the WG primarily focused on the land and water that feed into the ocean.
- For policy priority #1, the Transportation Sector WG focused on creative financing to manage the capital costs of diesel fleet conversion.
- The Transportation Sector WG agreed to revisit their policy priorities #2 and #3 to respectively reflect California Governor Newsom’s recent executive order to phase out gasoline-powered car and passenger truck sales by 2035 and the impact of COVID on public transit service level.
- For the Climate Justice WG’s policy priority #6, the WG did not focus on a specific approach to increase housing affordability, instead recommending that policies should not contribute to displacement and current affordability issues. An IAC member suggested adding a permitting process to look at cumulative impacts rather than project-specific impact, while there was a suggestion for reframing to reflect that many clean energy investments can result in decreased energy costs.

The IAC then discussed cross-sector policy priorities. Eugenia Gibbons verbally presented five cross-sector priorities, which were pulled and compiled from the WG discussions. These priorities are still being refined and will be finalized before the next IAC meeting.

Lastly, the IAC and EEA discussed how to move forward given the discussion. After discussing the timeline, Eugenia Gibbons moved to formally table a vote on the policy priorities discussed at the meeting in favor of continuing to work (including further refining the WG policy priorities, finalizing the cross-sector policy priorities, and finalizing a set of principles that would help guide policy making for the 2030 CECP and beyond) and voting to endorse the policy priorities and principles at an extra IAC meeting, to be scheduled in October. Steve Long seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed with no discussion.

Other IAC Business

Claire Miziolek of EEA shared the new IAC list-serv (subscribe-eea-gwsa_iac@listserv.state.ma.us) for members of the public to be notified of upcoming IAC meetings.

Undersecretary Ismay confirmed that EEA is still on track for a December publication of the 2050 Roadmap report along with the sector-specific technical reports/appendixes.

Public Comments

The floor was opened to questions from the members of public observing the meeting. A couple of people commented on the challenge of retrofitting and electrifying millions of existing buildings in order to achieve net-zero emissions, and whether the policy priorities discussed during the meeting can facilitate that. Another person asked for clarification around the key metrics for 2030 as presented in

the August 7th IAC meeting and how they relate to the IAC WG’s policy priorities. Another person asked about any coordination between EEA and the MA House/Senate conference committee members. Another person asked about opportunities for the public to get visibility into how the IAC cross-cutting policies are developed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:29pm.

Documents or exhibits used at the meeting (posted online¹):

1. Meeting Agenda
2. Draft Meeting Minutes of June 11th, 2020²
3. Meeting Slides
4. Electricity Sector Work Group Policy Priorities
5. Buildings Sector Work Group Policy Priorities
6. Nature-Based Solutions Work Group Policy Priorities
7. Transportation Sector Work Group Policy Priorities
8. Climate Justice Work Group Policy Priorities

Attendance

IAC Member/Delegates in attendance

Organization	Name
A Better City (ABC)	Kate Dineen
Boston University	<i>Absent</i>
City of Boston	Carl Spector
Conservation Law Foundation (CLF)	Caitlin Peale Sloan
Dismas House / Commonwealth Green Low Income Housing Coalition	David McMahon
Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2)	Sarah Simons
Environmental League of Massachusetts (ELM)	Nancy Goodman
Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems (CSE)	Kurt Roth
Health Care Without Harm	Eugenia Gibbons
Mass Audubon	Alexandra Vecchio
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	Sebastian Eastham
Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC)	Jason Viadero
Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)	Rebecca Davis
National Grid	Mackay Miller
Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC)	Peter Rothstein
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Steve Long
Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS)	Paulina Muratore

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

¹¹ <https://www.mass.gov/event/updated-september-30-2020-meeting-of-the-gwsa-implementation-advisory-committee-iac-2020-09>

² Posted at <https://www.mass.gov/event/june-11-2020-meeting-of-the-gwsa-implementation-advisory-committee-iac-2020-06-11t140000-0400>

Organization	Name
MA DOER	Alexis Washburn
	Allan Fierce
MassCEC	Ariel Horowitz
	Anna Goldstein
Town of Stow	Arnie Epstein
EEA	Benjamin Miller
MA DCAMM	Betsy Isenstein
	Boyce
	Brianna Rockwell
CommonWealth Magazine	Bruce Mohl
MAPC	Cammy Peterson
ELM	Caroline Dailey
MA DOER	Catie Snyder
MA DOER	Chelsea Kehne
Mass Forest Alliance	Chris Egan
WMCAN	Chris Riddle
Eversource	Clare Connolly
EEA	Claire Miziolek
EEA	Dan Gatti
MAPC	Darci Schofield
EEA	David Ismay
	David O'Connor
Sierra Club	David Zeek
Sierra Club	Deb Pasternak
Acadia Center	Deborah Donovan
	Ed Olmstead
Mothers Out Front	Ellie Goldberg
MA DOER	Eric Friedman
MassCEC	Elizabeth Cleveland
MassCEC	Galen Nelson
EEA	Hanh Chu
MA DOER	Ian Finlayson
ABC	Isabella Gambill
Sierra Club	Jacob Stern

MASCO Inc.	Janice Henderson
	Jeffrey Clark
NECEC	Jeremy McDiarmid
	Jesse Reyes
Climate XChange	Jonah Kurman-Faber
Eversource	Joy Woolley
	John
Green Energy Consumers Alliance	Kai Salem
City of Boston	Kat Eshel
MAPC	Kasia Hart
	Kevin
Climate X-Change	Marc Breslow
DOER	Marian Swain
	Marty
	Mary Jo
	Mike Duclos
Eversource	Nikki Bruno
	Patty
Town of Westborough	Pete Dunbeck
	P. Silva
MassCEC	Peter McPhee
	Roger Luckmann
DOER	Samantha Meserve
DCAMM	Sarah Creighton
MassDEP	Sharon Weber
CLF	Staci Rubin
MassDOT	Steve Woelfel
ELM	Susannah Hatch
	Sue S.
Climate X-Change	Timothy Cronin
	Tony Rogers
Sierra Club	Veena Dharmaraj
A Better City	Yve Torrie