

Environmental Justice Council

Meeting #12

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting – Key Information

- The Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting was established by [Executive Order 620](#) in September 2023 and is required to advise the Governor on:
 1. Accelerating the responsible deployment of clean energy infrastructure through siting and permitting reform in a manner consistent with applicable legal requirements and the Clean Energy and Climate Plan;
 2. Facilitating community input into the siting and permitting of clean energy infrastructure; and
 3. Ensuring that the benefits of the clean energy transition are shared equitably among all residents of the Commonwealth
- Recommendations may include suggestions for administrative, regulatory, and legislative changes to existing state laws and procedures.
- Recommendations are due to the Governor by March 31, 2024.
- The Commission includes representatives from the following sectors/interest groups:
 - State Agencies
 - Municipalities
 - Environmental Justice Organizations
 - Climate, Environmental, and Land Use Advocates
 - Electric Utilities
 - Agricultural Interests
 - Clean Energy Industry Representatives
 - Housing and Real Estate
 - Labor
 - Chairs of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy
- Work is supported by the Interagency Siting and Permitting Task Force and the Siting Practitioner Advisory Group
 - The Interagency Siting and Permitting Task Force is made up of individuals from state agencies that have a siting or permitting role in energy related infrastructure, such as:
 - Department of Public Utilities
 - Energy Facilities Siting Board
 - Department of Environmental Protection
 - Department of Fish and Game
 - Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office
 - Massachusetts Department of Transportation
 - Department of Energy Resources
 - Etc.
 - The Siting Practitioner Advisory Group is made up of 12 attorneys with decades of experience in siting and permitting energy infrastructure
- The Commission has met seven times to date and has at least five more scheduled meetings before the end of March
- While meetings are not open to the general public, the commission is hoping to solicit some public input on its deliberations to date in February, but the exact nature and timing of this public comment process has not yet been determined
- Questions should be directed to Katie Gronendyke (Kathleen.M.Gronendyke@mass.gov)