

THIS MEETING IS BEING RECORDED

Environmental Justice Council

Meeting #2
Thursday, Sept 15, 2022
10:30 am



- ▶ **Logistics: Language Interpretation is being offered in: Español, Kreyòl ayisyen 普通话, Kriolu, Português, Tiếng Việt, and American Sign Language (ASL)**
 - ▶ To participate in English, click the “Interpretation” icon and select English.
 - ▶ Para entrar no canal em português, clique no ícone “Interpretation” e selecione “Portuguese”
 - ▶ Si alguien desea interpretación en español, haga clic en “Interpretation” y seleccione “Spanish”
 - ▶ Pou rantre nan chanèl kreyòl ayisyen an, klike sou ikòn “Interpretation” an epi chwazi “Haitian Creole”
 - ▶ 要以普通话参加会议·请单击口语图标并选择“Chinese”
 - ▶ Pa partisipa na Kriolu, klika na íkone “Intirpretason” y silisiona “Cape Verdean Kriolu”.
 - ▶ Để vào kênh bằng tiếng Việt, hãy nhấp vào biểu tượng “Interpretation” và chọn “Vietnamese”
- ▶ **Please speak slowly.**
- ▶ **All attendees must select a language channel, even if viewing the presentation in English.**



- ▶ **If you would like a translated version of the slides, please go to the EJC website at: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/environmental-justice-council-ejc-meetings>**

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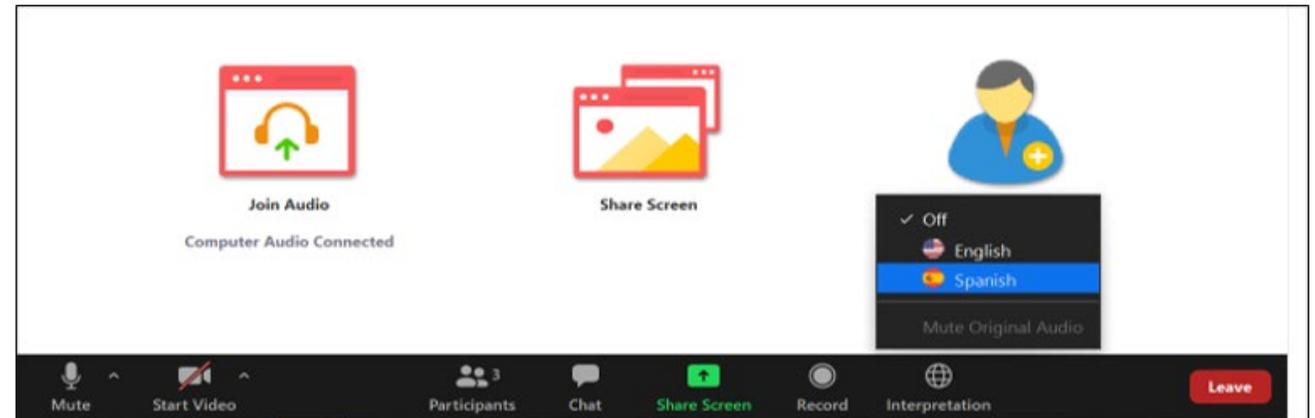
Logistics, Agenda & Introductions

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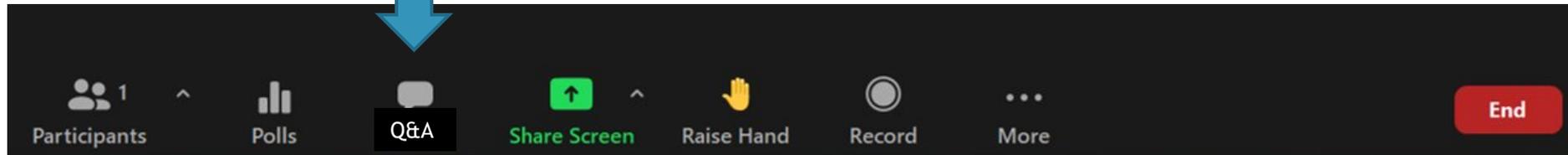
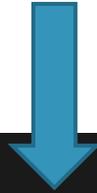
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Logistics: Remote Meeting Details

- ▶ All lines will be muted during the presentations.
- ▶ The line will be open for oral comments after the presentations.
- ▶ If you have a clarifying question or a logistical issue during the presentations, please type it into the Q&A box.



Agenda

- ▶ **Welcome, Introductions and Overview of Meeting Logistics** 10:30 - 10:45
- ▶ **Approval of prior meeting minutes** 10:45 - 10:50
- ▶ **Announcements** 10:50 - 10:55
- ▶ **Presentation by Environmental Justice Round Table** 10:55 - 11:15
- ▶ **Analysis of definition of "EJ Population"** 11:15 - 12:00
- ▶ **Clean Energy and Climate Plan presentation** 12:00 - 12:15
- ▶ **Questions / comments from the public**
- ▶ **Next Steps and Adjourn**



Introduction of EJ Council Members

- ▶ Kalila Barnett
- ▶ Madeline Fraser Cook
- ▶ Melissa Harding-Ferretti
- ▶ Cheryll Holley
- ▶ Caroline Hon
- ▶ Namrita Kapur
- ▶ Lydia Lowe
- ▶ Marcos Luna
- ▶ Peter Maathey
- ▶ Patricia Spence
- ▶ Ari Zorn

Approval of July 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Announcements

Presentation by EJ Roundtable

EJ Council's Analysis of Definition of “Environmental Justice Population”

Work of the EJ Council

required by *An Act Creating a Next Generation Roadmap for MA Climate Policy*

- ▶ ...advise and provide recommendations to the secretary of energy and environmental affairs on relevant policies and standards to achieve the environmental justice principles.
- ▶ ... conduct a comprehensive analysis every 5 years to ensure the definition of environmental justice population achieves the objectives of the environmental justice principles.
As part of the analysis, said council shall provide advice and make recommendations to the secretary on any necessary changes to the percentage thresholds included in this definition and any related regulation.

EJ Population Definition Comprehensive Analysis: Current MA Definition

- ▶ “Neighborhood” a census block group as defined by the United States Census Bureau.

- ▶ “Environmental justice population” a neighborhood that meets 1 or more of the following criteria:
 - i. the annual median household income is not more than 65 per cent of the statewide annual median household income;
 - ii. minorities comprise 40 per cent or more of the population;
 - iii. 25 per cent or more of households lack English language proficiency; or
 - iv. minorities comprise 25 per cent or more of the population and the annual median household income of the municipality in which the neighborhood is located does not exceed 150 per cent of the statewide annual median household income.

- ▶ Exemptions: people who live in college dormitories and people who are under formally authorized, supervised care or custody, including federal, state or county prisons.

A Brief History of Environmental Justice Policy in Massachusetts

Presented by Marcos Luna, Ph.D.

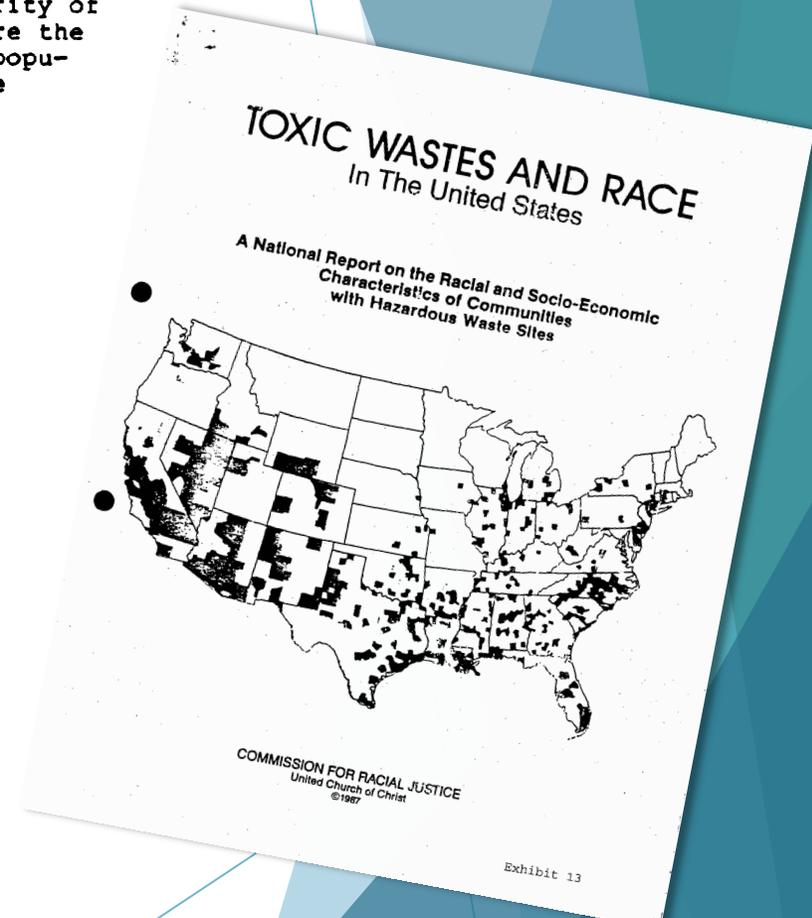
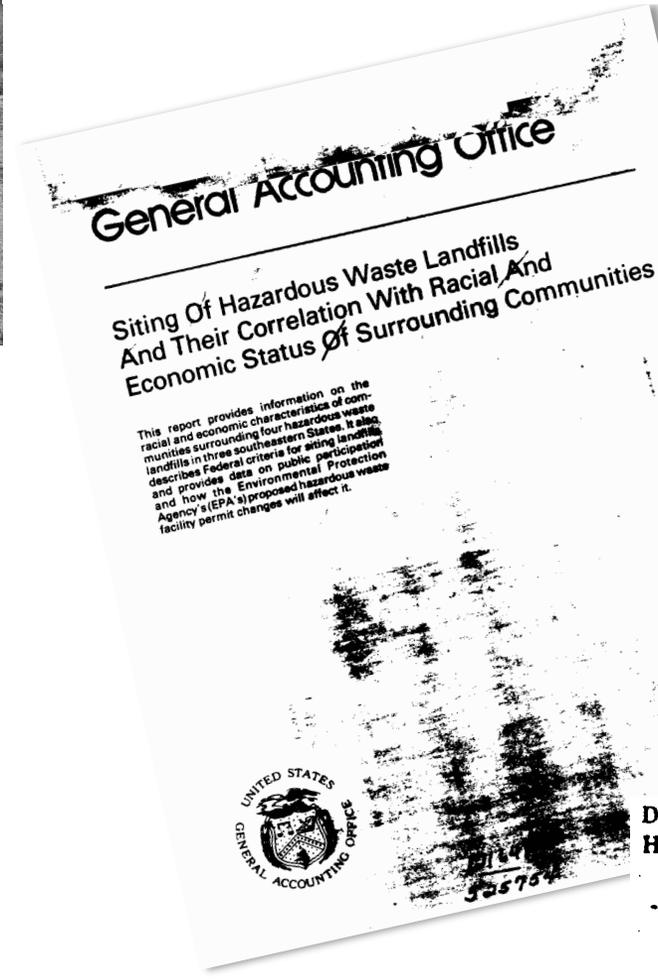
Origins of the Environmental Justice Movement

We found that:

--There are four offsite hazardous waste landfills in Regions IV's eight States. Blacks make up the majority of the population in three of the four communities where the landfills are located. At least 26 percent of the population in all four communities have income below the poverty level and most of this population is Black.



Protestors block the delivery of toxic PCB waste to a landfill in Afton, North Carolina, 1982. Photo by Ricky Stilley. NRDC. <https://www.nrdc.org/stories/environmental-justice->



Demographic Characteristics of Communities with Commercial Hazardous Waste Facilities

-- Race proved to be the most significant among variables tested in association with the location of commercial hazardous waste facilities. This represented a consistent national pattern.

Environmental Justice worldview

- ▶ The *environment* is “where we live, work, and play”
- ▶ Environmental inequality is inseparable from social inequality; it is a Civil Rights issue



University of Michigan Conference on Race and the Incidence of Environmental Hazards. 1990.



The First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit. October 1991. Washington, D.C.
<https://www.ucc.org/30th-anniversary-the-first-national-people-of-color-environmental-leadership-summit/>

Environmental Justice in national policy

- ▶ 1990: EPA Administrator creates Environmental Equity Workgroup
- ▶ 1992: EPA Office of Environmental Equity
- ▶ 1993: EPA National Environmental Justice Advisory Council
- ▶ 1994: Environmental Justice Small Grants Program
- ▶ 1994: Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice



Executive Order 12898—Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations. February 11, 1994

“... each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States and its territories and possessions, ...”

Environmental Justice in Massachusetts

- ▶ 1994: Massachusetts Environmental Justice Network founded
- ▶ 1994: EPA Region 1 Administrator announces strategy to combat “environmental racism” in New England communities
- ▶ 2000: MA EOEА forms Massachusetts Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (MEJAC) to explore statewide policy options
- ▶ 2001: Faber and Krieg release study “Unequal Exposure to Ecological Hazards: Environmental Injustices in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts”
- ▶ 2002: EOEА Secretary Durand issues Environmental Justice Policy
 - ▶ Foundation for defining EJ populations

Unequal Exposure to Ecological Hazards: Environmental Injustices in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Daniel R. Faber¹ and Eric J. Krieg²

¹Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA; ²Department of Sociology, Buffalo State College, Buffalo, New York, USA

This study analyzes the social and geographic distribution of ecological hazards across 368 communities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Combining census data with a variety of environmental data, we tested for and identified both income-based and racially based biases to the geographic distribution of 17 different types of environmentally hazardous sites and industrial

the basis of generating reasonably sized groups with easily recognizable boundaries. The lower-income groups are not intended to indicate poverty conditions.

The percentage of total population made

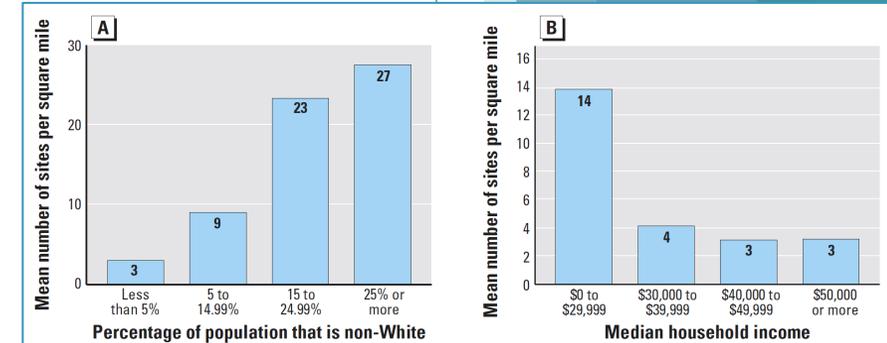


Figure 1. Unequal exposure to hazardous waste sites, compared with an average of 4.94 sites per square mile for all 368 Massachusetts communities in 2000. (A) Exposure to hazardous waste sites by race. (B) Exposure to hazardous waste sites by class.



EOEA Secretary Durand signs Environmental Justice Policy, 2002. Photo courtesy of Veronica Eady.

2002 Environmental Justice Policy of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

- ▶ “It targets EEA resources to service those high-minority/low- income neighborhoods in Massachusetts where EJ populations reside and are most at risk of being unaware of or unable to participate in environmental, energy, or climate change decision-making.”
- ▶ Defined as neighborhoods (U.S. Census Bureau census block groups) that meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - ▶ The median annual household income is at or below 65 percent of the statewide median income for Massachusetts; or
 - ▶ 25 percent of the residents are minority; or
 - ▶ 25 percent of the residents are foreign born, or
 - ▶ 25 percent of the residents are lacking English language proficiency.

Environmental Justice in Massachusetts

- ▶ 2005: Faber and Krieg release "Unequal Exposure to Ecological Hazards 2005: Environmental Injustices in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts"
- ▶ 2009: Massachusetts Environmental Justice Alliance formed
- ▶ 2011: Massachusetts Environmental Justice Alliance and EOEAA conduct statewide listening sessions about EJ policy
- ▶ 2014: Governor Patrick issues Executive Order No. 552 on Environmental Justice
- ▶ 2017: EOEAA releases updated Environmental Justice Policy



2017 Environmental Justice Policy of the Executive Office Of Environmental Affairs

- ▶ Defines “environmental justice populations” as neighborhoods that meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - ▶ annual median household income is at or below 65 percent of the statewide median income or
 - ▶ population is made up 25 percent Minority, or
 - ▶ population is made up 25 percent Lacking English Language Proficiency.
- ▶ Adds Vulnerable Health EJ populations as secondary screening criteria
- ▶ Directs EFSB to use same MEPA triggers for enhanced participation or analysis
- ▶ Includes references to climate change



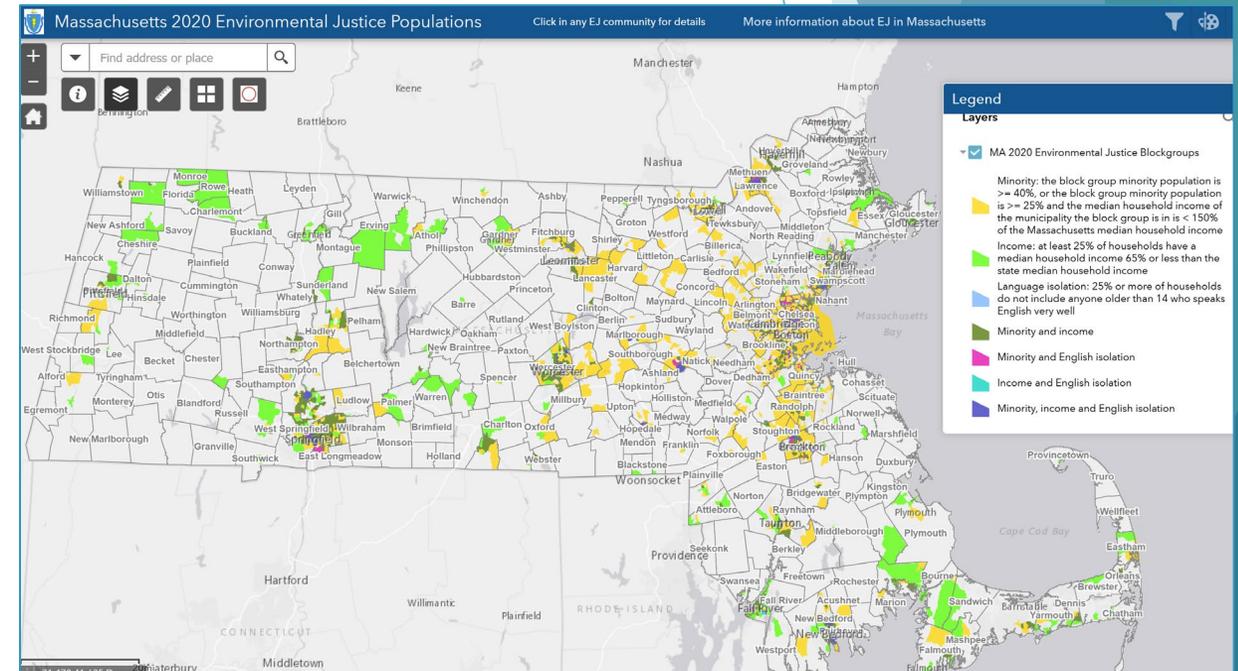
Environmental Justice in Massachusetts

- ▶ 2019: Environmental Justice Legislative Table convenes to discuss new policy options for statewide environmental justice policy
- ▶ 2020: At least 20 different environmental justice bills filed
- ▶ 2021: Governor Baker signs into law Senate Bill 9 - *An Act Creating a Next Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy*
- ▶ 2021: EOEEA releases new Environmental Justice Policy



2021 Environmental Justice Policy of the Executive Office Of Energy And Environmental Affairs

- ▶ Defines “environmental justice populations” as neighborhoods that meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - ▶ the annual median household income is not more than 65 per cent of the statewide annual median household income;
 - ▶ minorities comprise 40 per cent or more of the population;
 - ▶ 25 per cent or more of households lack English language proficiency; or
 - ▶ minorities comprise 25 per cent or more of the population and the annual median household income of the municipality in which the neighborhood is located does not exceed 150 per cent of the statewide annual median household income.
- ▶ Opt-in provision for EJ communities specified
- ▶ Defines “environmental burdens” for the first time



Clean Energy and Climate Plan

Presented by Hanh Chu, GWSA Program Manager



Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2050: Briefing to the Environmental Justice Council

September 15, 2022

Hong-Hanh Chu

GWSA Program Manager

hong-hanh.chu@mass.gov



Requirements of *An Act Creating a Next Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy* (“2021 Climate Law”)

- As required by the 2021 Climate Law, the Clean Energy and Climate Plan (CECP) acts as a “roadmap” for how the Commonwealth will achieve its greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals
- Statutory requirements in 2021 Climate Law:
 - **Economy-wide Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reduction from the Baseline Level in 1990**
 - Requires $\geq 50\%$ GHG emissions reduction in 2030; $\geq 75\%$ in 2040; $\geq 85\%$ and net zero in 2050
 - Also requires emissions limit for 2025, 2035, and 2045
 - **Sector-Specific GHG Emissions Reduction**
 - Requires EEA Secretary to set sublimits for electric power, transportation, commercial and industrial heating and cooling, residential heating and cooling, industrial processes, natural gas distribution and service, and “any other sector or source the secretary may designate”
 - **Natural and Working Lands (NWL)**
 - Codifies NWL definition
 - Requires EEA to track NWL carbon flux and set goals for reducing emissions and increasing carbon sequestration
 - Requires development of NWL plan—informed by stakeholder process—within each CECP
 - **Progress Tracking**
 - Requires EEA to set numeric benchmarks and track emissions reduction products, solutions, and improvements used to achieve statewide emissions limits and sublimits

Clean Energy and Climate Plans

- The [Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2020](#) (2020 CECP) was released in 2010 and updated in 2015.
 - Outlines a comprehensive portfolio of policies for the Commonwealth to reduce economy-wide GHG emissions by 25% in 2020.
- The [Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2025 and 2030](#) (2025/2030 CECP) was released on June 30, 2022.
 - Outlines a comprehensive suite of strategies, policies, actions, and implementation goals and benchmarks for the Commonwealth to reduce statewide GHG emissions by 33% and 50% in 2025 and 2030, respectively, in a cost-effective and equitable manner.
- The **Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2050** (2050 CECP) is required to be released by January 1, 2023.

Preliminary Timeline for 2050 CECP Development

Task	8/1	8/8	8/15	8/22	8/29	9/5	9/12	9/19	9/26	10/3	10/10	10/17	10/24	10/31	11/7	11/14	11/21	11/28	12/5	12/12	12/19	12/26			
2050 CECP development	Outline; inter-agency reviews					Drafting; inter-agency reviews										Gov's Office review & approval		Final production			Translations				
2050 Sublimit Analysis	Analysis; inter-agency reviews					Review and Feedback																			
Public Outreach									Virtual Public Hearings and Comment Period																
Letter of Determination															Drafting		Review and Feedback					Gov's Office review & approval			

Preliminary Outline of 2050 CECP

- **Potential key topics:**
 - The Commonwealth's Net Zero 2050 Vision
 - Ensuring an Equitable and Just Transition to 2050
 - Economy-wide Emissions Limit and Sector-Specific Sublimits for 2050
 - The Future of Fuels
 - Carbon Sequestration, Removal, and Storage
 - Sector-Based Strategies
 - Transportation
 - Buildings
 - Power
 - Non-Energy and Industrial
 - Natural and Working Lands
 - Cross-Cutting Strategies
 - Economic and Employment Benefits
- **Other topics? Policy priorities?**

Questions and Feedback?

All questions and comments can be sent to gwsa@mass.gov

Public Comments and Questions

*Please limit each comment to 2 minutes, to
allow time for others to speak*

Next Steps & Adjourn

- ▶ Next meeting: Sept 27, 2022; 12 pm
- ▶ Information on the EJC and its meetings can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/environmental-justice-council-ejc>



WHAT'S
NEXT?