

## **GWSA Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC)**

**June 27, 2019, 2:00PM – 4:00PM**

**100 Cambridge Street, Boston, 2nd Floor, Conference Room C/D**

**(Approved 8/22/2019)**

EEA Undersecretary Dan Sieger welcomed everyone. The meeting was called to order at 2:08 PM. Undersecretary Sieger called for a vote to approve the meeting minutes of March 7, 2019. A motion was made and seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

### **Brief updates from state agencies**

Christine Kirby, Assistant Commissioner of MassDEP, gave an update on the 2019 regional policy process of the Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI). A technical workshop on key design elements of a regional cap and invest program was held at Boston Public Library on April 30. A workshop focusing on social equity concerns in transportation was held in New Jersey on May 15, which had a large turnout. There is an upcoming workshop in Baltimore on July 30, which will be the last regional workshop. Massachusetts is planning MA specific engagement opportunities; have 6 sessions lined up. The TCI process will culminate in a regional policy proposal by the end of the year, though details of the proposal are still in development.

Christine Kirby also gave an update on the Volkswagen settlement. In Cycle 1, MassDEP will be electrifying bus fleets in Environmental Justice communities, moving forward with the purchase of electric transit buses in the Pioneer Valley and Martha's Vineyard Transit Authorities, as well as allowing \$5M of the funds to be used for electric vehicle charging under the Massachusetts Electric Vehicle Incentive Program (MassEVIP). Electric vehicle charging project categories include Work Place Charging stations (which have applications through rolling solicitation), Multi-Unit Dwellings (which has had slow uptake), and Public Access Charging (which has enough applications to fully utilize available funding). MassDEP will be announcing PAC awardees this summer. Another \$7.5M will fund projects that, for example, electrify transportation and are in the process of rating and choosing applications across many project types. MassDEP is working with National Grid and Eversource on potential utility partnerships and integrating with utility efforts.

Joanna Troy, DOER, announced that their Offshore wind study is complete and has been released, available at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/offshore-wind-study>.

Peter McPhee of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center commented that they are working closely with MassSave on the eligibility of heat pumps for programs.

### **Presentation and discussion of 80x50 Study**

Benjamin Miller, EEA, walked through the 80x50 Study's approach including the definition of a pathway, scenario, policy, and implementation steps and timing. The research streams for this study include non-energy, buildings, land use, transportation, electricity, which are all closely linked. The selected

consultant team will be developing sector models and analyses to determine the initial pathways to the 2050 emissions limit, and then analyzing potential 2050-compliant pathways under varying scenarios.

Summary of discussion points and questions & answers:

- Cost-effectiveness (waiting vs. taking action, relationship between time and cost) is being considered.
- The study is considering regional spillover effects particularly around imported energy vs. state generated.
- While 80% emissions reduction by 2050 is the baseline that must be met, the study will analyze ways to achieve more than 80% emissions reduction.
- A suggestion was made that, as policies and scenarios are developed, perhaps there could be a report on whether the policy has reached capacity or if there's room to grow, identifying where a policy has reached 'tail end'.
- Carbon offsets are being considered in the study, and that the land use analysis includes analyzing the potential of different land cover types to generate GHG emissions and/or sequester carbon.
- EEA is currently unclear about what economic assumptions will be included in the scenario analysis (e.g. forecasts from industry, etc.? Including: Changes to cost of solar? Changes to costs of electricity?), but will look to the IAC and the Academic Steering Committee for help with that effort.
- Several questions and suggestions were raised around data sources for the study, including utility data, business data, and considering a breakthrough scenario should a technological breakthrough occur, as well as proof of public-private financing models.

Claire Miziolek, EEA, then presented on the broader plan for the 80x50 Study, including proposed stakeholder engagement plan and the role of IAC members and delegates in the study. EEA is looking for feedback on additional stakeholders and outreach activities. EEA is proposing that the trajectory of the 80x50 research be a prominent part of IAC meetings, that IAC meetings align with research decisions, and the IAC could help inform public hearings.

IAC feedback on stakeholder engagement included:

- Composition of the academic steering committee is based on academic diversity, mostly local experts, and further suggestions are encouraged to be sent over email.
- EEA was encouraged to make the datasets, workbooks, etc for the study to be publicly available and named to extent possible. This should be address in the report's Technical Reports.
- EEA clarifies that the 80x50 study is likely to be the primary focus for the IAC over the next year, though specific engagement is likely to dovetail to some varying topics. Additionally, there would probably reach a point where conversation will split into 2030 and 2050.

Claire Miziolek proposed a plan for including the IAC's policy recommendations for analysis in the 80x50 Study. IAC Work Groups have already developed draft policy recommendations, and could be re-convened to review and refine those draft recommendations based on screening criteria from GWSA

before being considered by the full IAC body and analyzed in the 80x50 Study. The discussion generally supported this approach and encouraged EEA to consider the breath of benefits policies could bring to the Commonwealth, including revenue collection, in the refinement. MAPC noted they are surveying carbon reductions plans and strategies in their region and will look to share with EEA once collected.

Comment/Question from the audience

Ruth Trimarchi, a Winchester citizen, asked EEA to consider Doing No Harm, accounting not just for the siting of renewable energy projects but also the negative environmental impacts of such siting.

**Wrap up & next steps**

The IAC was asked about keeping or rescheduling the August 29<sup>th</sup> date and time for the next IAC meeting. There was a consensus among the IAC members/delegates in attendance to reschedule the meeting. Undersecretary Sieger suggested that everyone send EEA times that work.

Undersecretary Sieger adjourned meeting at 4:06 PM.

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

1. Meeting agenda
2. Meeting minutes of March 7<sup>th</sup> 2019<sup>2</sup>
3. Slides for 80x50 Study discussion

**IAC Member/Delegates in attendance**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Name</b>
A Better City (ABC)	Kate Dineen
Boston University	<i>(absent)</i>
City of Boston	Carl Spector
Conservation Law Foundation (CLF)	David Ismay
Dismas House / Commonwealth Green Low Income Housing Coalition	<i>(absent)</i>
Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2)	Sarah Simon
Environmental League of Massachusetts (ELM)	Eric Wilkinson
Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems (CSE)	<i>(absent)</i>
Mass Audubon	Jack Clarke
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	<i>(absent)</i>
Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC)	<i>(absent)</i>
Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)	Cammy Peterson

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.mass.gov/event/june-27-2019-meeting-of-the-gwsa-implementation-advisory-committee-iac-2019-06-27t140000-0400>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.mass.gov/event/march-7-2019-meeting-of-the-gwsa-implementation-advisory-committee-iac-2019-03-07t100000-0500>

National Grid	Mackay Miller
Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC)	Peter Rothstein
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Steve Long
Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS)	<i>(absent)</i>

### Others in attendance

Organization	Name
Cadmus	Kathryn Wright
Cadmus	Liz Hanson
Citizen	Kim Siebert
Citizen	Michael Duclos
City of Boston	Kat Eshel
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA)	Dan Sieger, Undersecretary of Environment
EEA	Benjamin Miller
EEA	Claire Miziolek
EEA	Vallery Cardoso
EEA	Isaac Wolfson
EEA	Sarabrent McCoy
EEA	Mia Mansfield
Green Energy Consumer Alliance	Eugenia Gibbons
MA Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)	Christine Kirby
MassDEP	Will Space
MA Department of Energy Resources (DOER)	Catie Snyder
DOER	Joanna Troy
DOER	Ian Finlayson
DOER	Maggie McCarey
MA Department of Transportation (MassDOT)	Steve Woelfel
Massachusetts Clean Energy Center	Peter McPhee
Rep Meschino's Office	Hannah Flaherty
Rep Meschino's Office	Sophie Abrams
Rep Meschino's Office	Eva de Charleroy
Sierra Club	David Zeek
Sierra Club	Veena Dharmaraj
Winchester Climate Action Advisory Committee	Ruth Trimarchi