MEPA Advisory Committee

May 6, 2022, 1:00PM-3:00PM

Remote Meeting

Organizations Represented/In Attendance

- American Council of Engineering Companies of MA/Stantec
- Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
- Boston Harbor Now
- Central Massachusetts Planning Commission
- Charles River Watershed Association
- Conservation Law Foundation
- Eversource
- GreenRoots
- Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Massachusetts
- MassAudubon
- Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions
- Metropolitan Area Planning Council
- NAIOP Commercial Real Estate Development Association of MA
- National Grid
- Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), New England Chapter
- VHB

State agency/authority attendees

- CZM
- DCR
- DHCD/OCD
- EEA EJ Director
- EOHED
- MassDEP
- MassPort
- MWRA
- NHESP

Meeting Summary

Discussion of MEPA's "Phase II" regulatory review effort continued with a presentation by EEA climate staff on the Climate Resilience Design Standards Tool, developed by the Resilient Massachusetts Action Team (RMAT). The presentation covered updates to the tool and what information is required to evaluate projects. The potential for the tool to be used in municipal planning was also discussed.

The MEPA Director presented data on MEPA projects reviewed since the MEPA Interim Protocol on Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency went into effect on October 1, 2021. Key observations on these projects and potential components of a MEPA Climate Resiliency Policy were discussed. It was noted that several state agencies are currently in the process of updating pertinent regulations, including the building code and stormwater management standards.

Next Steps

The next meeting of the MEPA Advisory Committee will take place on **June 10, 2022, at 10am-12noon** (postponed from May 27, 2022 due to the Memorial Day holiday). The MEPA Office and the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) will present on potential options for updates to the MEPA GHG Emissions Policy and Protocol. Power point presentations used at each MEPA advisory committee meeting will be made available on the MEPA website at https://www.mass.gov/info-details/mepa-advisory-committee.