

GWSA Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC)

May 9, 2018

2:30PM – 4:00PM

100 Cambridge Street, Boston, 2nd Floor, Conference Room D

Draft Meeting Minutes

Assistant Secretary of Climate Change, Katie Theoharides, welcomed the IAC members and called the meeting to order at 2:35PM.

Updates

MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg:

- The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court recently heard oral arguments for 310 CMR 7.74 “Reducing CO2 Emissions From Electricity Generating Facilities.”
- MassDEP also issued a Request for Information on April 18, 2018 seeking to obtain data and feedback on how the state should expend the Volkswagen settlement funds. Responses were due May 18, 2018.

Joanna Troy:

- DOER has contracted Synapse Energy Economics, Inc. to conduct modeling for the Comprehensive Energy Plan. The agency will begin the stakeholder process and engage the IAC this summer when the consultant is ready for sensitivity modeling.

Hong-Hanh Chu:

- EEA has convened a Data Focus Group to foster discussion, sharing, and coordination of data sources, assumptions, tools, and modeling approaches among entities separately analyzing greenhouse gas reduction pathways to 2030, 2040, and 2050. Participants in the Data Focus Group include technical staff from National Grid, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Boston University/Carbon Free Boston, EEA, DOER, and MassDEP. The primary deliverable of this focus group is a catalogue of data sources, data assets, and data tools to inform modeling efforts. The catalogue will be publicly available once completed.

Process and protocol for future IAC and Subcommittee meetings (see slides 3-6, handouts)

Assistant Secretary Theoharides informed the IAC that future IAC meetings will be conducted in accordance with the Open Meeting Law (OML). Hong-Hanh Chu provided a brief overview of meeting notifications, meeting minutes, and other applications of OML to the IAC. Each IAC member/delegate was provided the OML text, the Attorney General’s Open Meetings regulations, and the Attorney General’s OML education guide and educational materials.

Official IAC members were also asked to sign the Certificate of Receipt of Open Meeting Law Materials within 2 weeks.

The IAC discussed IAC membership and meeting attendance, and expressed concerns about the IAC subcommittee meetings following OML. The IAC requested further EEA guidance on IAC subcommittees and the discussion of climate issues outside of IAC meetings.

Report out by IAC Transportation Subcommittee (see hand out)

The IAC Transportation Subcommittee provided a preliminary list of potential strategies and policies that the Commonwealth could use to reduce GHG emissions in the transportation sector. As a next step, the subcommittee will evaluate and prioritize these potential strategies and policies using the Draft Policy Framework for 2030 Plan (shared at the February 15th, 2018 IAC meeting) as a guide.

An IAC member mentioned that further research is needed on freight and the movement of goods.

Results from Transportation Listening Tour comments (see slides 7-12)

Benjamin Miller presented the results of EEA's analysis of submitted comments during the Transportation Listening Sessions and comment period. He highlighted the top 15 most frequently supported topics and the top 3 topics mentioned at each listening session. All comments were grouped into 4 priority categories and/or 5 guiding principles. The EEA is developing a report summarizing the submitted comments.

An IAC member suggested seeking more feedback from industries.

Discussion on scope & content for 10-Year Progress Report

In the interest of time, this agenda item was tabled for the next IAC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00PM.

IAC Member/Delegate in attendance

Organization	Name
A Better City (ABC)	Kathryn Carlson
Boston University	<i>(absent)</i>
City of Boston	Austin Blackmon
Conservation Law Foundation (CLF)	David Ismay
Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2)	Berl Hartman
Environmental League of Massachusetts (ELM)	Nancy Goodman
Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems (CSE)	Christian Hoepfner
Mass Audubon	Jack Clarke
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	Mark Staples
Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)	Rebecca Davis
National Grid	Alexander "Sandy" Taft
Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC)	Peter Rothstein
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Steve Long
Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS)	Daniel Gatti
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute	<i>(absent)</i>

Others in attendance

Organization	Name
City of Boston	Rory Cuddyer
E2	Sarah Simon
TNC	Sarah Jackson
Acadia Center	Mark LeBel
Acadia Center	Jordan Stutt
MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs (EEA)	Kathleen Theoharides, Assistant Secretary of Climate Change
MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs (EEA)	Dan Sieger, Assistant Secretary of Environment
MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs	Hong-Hanh Chu
MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs	Ben Miller
MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs	Kurt Gaertner
MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs	Tori Kim
MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs	Jennifer Sulla
MA Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)	Martin Suuberg, Commissioner
MA Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)	Christine Kirby
MA Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)	Sharon Weber
MA Department of Energy Resources (DOER)	Joanna Troy
MA Department of Energy Resources (DOER)	Ian Finlayson
MA Department of Public Utilities (DPU)	Kate Tohme
<i>A few others also attended the meeting, but their names were not on the sign in sheet.</i>	