

GWSA Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) Meeting

October 5, 2022, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Virtual Meeting on Zoom

Meeting Minutes – *DRAFT*

Welcome, approving the 8/11/22 IAC meeting minutes, agenda overview

Undersecretary of Energy and Climate Solutions, Judy Chang, called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM after quorum was met.

Undersecretary Chang then called for a review of the meeting minutes from the August 11th IAC meeting. The draft minutes were then approved by the majority (11 in favor). Undersecretary Chang then provided an overview of the meeting agenda.

General Updates

Undersecretary Chang opened the meeting by discussing the Clean Energy and Climate Plan Dashboard (CECP Dashboard) by providing updates that the first version will be coming out soon and thanked the IAC members for their feedback. EEA will continue to review additional feedback for the next version of the Dashboard.

Undersecretary Chang then provided an update on the Clean Heat Commission (CHC) by explaining that the CHC members have been meeting over the last few months developing ideas and a draft of the recommendations to reflect the concepts and the ideas of the commission members. The CHC members are a diverse group, and this is a complex issue and takes time to bring the ideas to a level that everyone can support. The next steps will be to go into a new phase of deliberation and in the next few months obtain consensus. Undersecretary Chang thanked members of the commission for working tirelessly. It was also noted that at the high level the topics will not be very new, most material will be reflected in the Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2025 and 2030 (2025/2030 CECP) and the work will be seen in the policies that will come out in the Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2050 (2050 CECP).

Undersecretary Chang offered the opportunity to the IAC to ask questions and no questions were asked.

Undersecretary Chang introduced Vallery Cardoso, Deputy Director of Environmental Justice at the EEA, to provide an overview of the Environmental Justice Council (EJC) and their charge pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Acts of 2021, An Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy (the "Act"). The EJC was first convened this year and there are 12 members. Their current task is conducting analysis of the definition of EJ. The virtual meetings are documented and translated in 10 languages. EJ Director Rishi Reddi will work closely with Climate Team to improve EJ policy. The next EJC meeting is October 7, 6-8pm. Steve Long (TNC) commented thanking Vallery and stated he was interested in the status of the definition timeline. Valley stated that first few meetings have been to get to understand what EJ is, in future will discuss ideas of the definition and then come up with a timeline.

IAC Work Group Reports

The Transportation Work Group Co-Chair Kate Dineen (ABC) reported that the Transportation Work Group met on August 23rd and discussed several topics. These topics were nominating Kate as co-chair,

discussing high level 2050 CECP feedback, and submitting thoughts on the CECP Dashboard to Dan Gatti (EEA).

The Natural Working Lands Work Group Co-Chair Steve Long reported that they are now in process of transitioning to co-chairs. Michelle Manion (Mass Audubon) will be nominated to co-chair. Steve will focus on policy while Michelle Manion will focus on the carbon market. In future the group will develop high level principles on carbon markets outside of the state however, this topic is very complex, and the group will need time to develop. Undersecretary Chang thanked them and asked for any input on carbon markets and policy in future. She agreed that there needs to be an emphasis on taking the time to do it right. This topic will be discussed in the 2050 CECP.

The Power Sector Working Group Chair Caitlin Peale Sloan (CLF) reported that the work group convened 2 weeks ago to discuss electric sector policies proposed for the 2050 CECP. They are waiting to see further information and next steps for implementation. Caitlin also stated that she would welcome a co-chair for the work group.

Introductions and a welcome were then given by Undersecretary Chang for new IAC Members Steve Woerner from National Grid and Julie Curti from MAPC. Steve Woerner emphasized that National Grid is committed to climate goals of the state, would like expedited regulations for building infrastructure, and to identify issues that are in the way including renewable energy siting and permitting. Julie Curti is the Director of Clean Energy at MAPC and emphasized the importance of advancing clean energy.

2050 CECP Presentation

Undersecretary Chang then presented on the 2050 CECP which builds on the 2025/2030 CECP, focusing on the medium- and long-term goals and strategies to achieve net zero emissions in 2050. This 2050 CECP will serve as a plan and a guide for future policy development. As part of the development of the 2050 CECP, EEA is hosting public meetings on October 6, 7, & 11, 2022 to gather feedback on EEA's proposed statewide emissions limit, sector-specific emissions sublimits, as well as sector goals and strategies and cross-sectoral strategies to achieve the limit and sublimits. Comments on the proposals for the 2050 CECP are accepted until October 21, 2022.

- Summary of questions, comments, and responses is below.
- Steve Woerner commented about two additional uncertainties: ability to site, permit and construct the necessary levels of electric system infrastructure and uncertainty in timeline for achieving a zero emission grid. He also questioned the abilities to develop the infrastructure successfully and wants infrastructure to connect clean energy successfully. Undersecretary Chang agreed with the need for investments and agreements on siting.
- Caitlin Peale Sloan commented with concerns around decarbonization of electric grid, flagging that she has heard it over the last 10 years as reason not to rapidly electrify vehicles and wants to make sure that it does not go unstated in the discussion.
- Steve Woerner commented on the clean heat clearing house stating that he does not want redundancy with MassSave and does not want to slow things down. Undersecretary Chang stated that the CHC is developing thoughts that there should not be such separated programs with different work on homes for consumers. The idea is to have a one stop shop for all things and improve efficiency, wants to help customers and be consumer centric.

- Kate Dineen commented on the transportation slide. She was glad to see advancement of transportation policies and plans, wanted EEA to consider creating new policies to help public transportation, enhance reliability and fast track electrification, and take another look at additional enhancements to serve EJ populations and achieve net zero. She also said roadway pricing could help reduce emissions and wants to focus how to assess roadway pricing in an equitable way. Paulina Muratore (Union of Concerned Scientists) agreed. Julie Curti also agreed and stated that she wants key metrics around public transit. Furthermore, on buildings, she would like to see emphasis on equitable building electrifications in an affordable way. Undersecretary Chang stated that this is part of Clean Heat Commissions work.
- Kurt Roth (Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems) stated in chat his concerns of the timeline of Electric Vehicle ports and that EEA needs to be realistic on the timeline.
- Steve Long commented that he wants to be more aggressive on land protection, focusing on what private landowners can do to help with NWL. He emphasized the need for more programs and incentives for carbon sequestration. He believes that developing creative ways to get private landowners to think of conservation would be beneficial.

IAC Nominations

Steve Long made a motion to nominate Michelle Manion as Co-Chair of the Natural Working Lands Work Group. This was seconded by Kate Dineen and approved by unanimous vote.

Sarah Simon made a motion to nominate Kate Dineen as Co-Chair of the Transportation Working Group. This was seconded by Paulina Muratore and approved by unanimous vote.

The new co-chairs thanked the IAC for the nominations and accepted the positions.

Public Comments

Undersecretary Chang opened the meeting for public comments.

- Tina Grosowsky thanked the IAC for their work, and requested a public media campaign, noting specifically billboards and Electric Vehicle programs. Undersecretary Chang stated that the EEA have begun to develop the plan to do this.
- Kyle Murray of the Acadia Center asked for clarification on what was meant by “evaluate findings from 10-town pilot and future of gas infrastructure” on slide 10. He also asked about the “greenhouse gas emissions accounting methodologies for biobased and synthetic fuel combustion emissions” on slide 13, whether the accounting will be on a life cycle basis. Undersecretary Chang noted that the reference to “future of gas infrastructure” is not the DPU 20-80 docket. She also noted that as more advanced biofuels are used in Massachusetts, the Commonwealth will need to consider how the emissions associated with their production and/or consumption would be accounted for in the statewide GHG inventory.

Undersecretary thanked IAC members while again noting that the EEA is conducting public meetings on the 2050 CECP. Meeting was adjourned at 4:46 PM.

Documents or exhibits used at the meeting (posted online afterwards)

1. Meeting Agenda
2. Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2021
3. Meeting Slides

Attendance 10/5/2022

IAC Member/Delegates in attendance:

Organization	Name
A Better City (ABC)	Kate Dineen
Boston University	Cutler Cleveland
City of Boston	Alison Brizius
Conservation Law Foundation (CLF)	Caitlin Peale Sloan
Commonwealth Green Low Income Housing Coalition	David McMahon
Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2)	<i>absent</i>
Environmental League of Massachusetts (ELM)	<i>absent</i>
Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems (CSE)	Kurt Roth
Mass Audubon	Michelle Manion
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	<i>absent</i>
Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC)	Jason Viadero
Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)	Julie Curti
National Grid	Stephen Woerner
Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC)	Jeremy McDiarmid
The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Steve Long
Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS)	Paulina Muratore
Cambridge Health Alliance	<i>absent</i>
Others in Attendance:	Name
Affiliation (if applicable)	
ABC	Yve Torre
ABC	Isabella Gambill
Acadia Center	Kyle Murray
Brattle Group	Josh Figueroa
CLF	Staci Rubin
Department of Energy Resources (DOER)	Shevie Brown
DOER	Ian Finlayson
DOER	Aurora Edington
DOER	Austin Dawson
DOER	Marian Swain
DOER	Nina Mascarenhas
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA)	Judy Chang
EEA	Patrick Forde

EEA	Sarah Basham
EEA	Daniel Gatti
EEA	Dunbar Carpenter
EEA	Hong-Hanh Chu
EEA	Melissa Mittelman
EEA	Nicole Cooper
EEA	Bob Wilber
EEA	Vallery Cardoso
EEA	Kurt Gaertner
ELM	David Melly
Eversource	Tracy Gionfriddo
GECA	Grace Alves
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)	Will Space
MassDEP	Sharon Weber
Mass Forest Alliance	Chris Egan
Sierra Club	David Zeek
PLAN-NE	Cathy Kristofferson
MassCEC	Jennifer Applebaum
MassCEC	Ariel Horowitz
Longwood Collective	Janice Henderson
No affiliation specified	Arnold Epstein
	Betsy Isenstein
	Brendan
	Tony Rogers
	Charlie Thompson
	Eliora Goodman
	Jeff Clark
	Robert Wilber
	Tina Grosowsky
	Sarah Creighton