

# **Maryland Commission on Climate Change Working Group Work Plan - 2016**

## **Mitigation Working Group**

### **Purpose**

To recommend greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction strategies to the Maryland Commission on Climate Change (MCCC). These strategies should be designed to reduce GHG emissions while also supporting a strong economy and job creation in Maryland.

### **Membership**

See Attachment 1. The Mitigation Working Group (MWG) is managed by two co-chairs (Stuart Clarke and Mike Powell) and a State lead (Tad Aburn).

### **Responsibilities**

Identifying and analyzing GHG reduction strategies. This includes emissions analysis, economic analysis and a host of other analyses (reliability, social equity, impact on manufacturing, impact on rural areas, etc) identified in the Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Act (GGRA) and the Maryland Climate Change Commission Act of 2015.

### **2016 Priorities**

The MWG is partially driven by the schedule in the 2016 GGRA legislation. This schedule calls for a draft plan by October of 2018 to achieve a 40% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030. The 2018 plan must also provide a net benefit to Maryland's economy and job creation in Maryland. The top 4 priorities for the MWG in 2016 are:

1. Identify and make recommendations on an initial set of strategies to achieve a 40% reduction in GHG emissions (that also supports a strong economy and job creation) by 2030. The strategies must be consistent with the requirements of the GGRA. As part of this recommendation, provide an assessment of how difficult or easy it will be to achieve the 40% reduction.
2. Identify and make recommendations on any new or enhanced GHG emission reduction strategies that could be implemented in a time frame to support even deeper reductions by 2020. Because the current plan shows that the State is on track to achieve the 25% reduction by 2020 required in the 2009 GGRA, these strategies would need to show clear positive impacts on the State's economy and on job creation.
3. Provide recommendation on three emerging analytical issues. These issues are enhanced economic analyses, additional analyses to insure that the States plan benefits all individuals (social equity) and new accounting techniques to address methane leakage and methane life-cycle issues consistent with the GGRA.

4. Provide routine status reports to the MCCC summarizing the implementation status of each program in the current GGRA plan. Each implementing agency shall provide input for these reports on implementation status, emission reductions, economic benefits and job creation.

Attachment 2 also describes other elements of the work effort that the MWG will undertake in 2016.

### **Process**

The MWG will build from the ongoing work of MDE, MDE contractors and other State agencies, while using the unique expertise of MWG members. The MWG will also use analyses from outside resources that certain MCCC members have made available. Topic area experts will also be brought in on many issues.

Attachment 2 provides a meeting by meeting summary of how panels of experts and internal and external resources will be used as part of the MWG process. The MWG plans to coordinate with the Science and Technology Working Group (STWG), the Adaptation and Response Working Group (ARWG) and the Education, Communication and Outreach Working Group (ECO) on many cross-cutting issues.

The MWG will update/adjust work plan content and schedule as necessary and update the MCCC.

### **Resource Needs**

The MWG is well supported by MDE, other State agencies and workgroup members themselves on the core work required on program evaluation, emission reduction quantification and economic analysis.

Additional support on enhanced economic analyses, social equity issues and short-lived climate pollutants would allow the MWG to better complete some of the new analyses needed to fulfill the lofty expectations of the MCCC.

Additional support for handling the large amount of administrative work driven by the MCCC process would also be very helpful and insure a well run process in 2016. MDE and DNR staff the Commission, the Working Groups, sub-committees of the Working Groups and Steering Committees.

### **Schedule of Meetings**

Attachment 2 provides a summary of MWG meetings scheduled for 2016.

## Attachment 1

### Mitigation Working Group Membership

<b>Co-Chairs</b>	
<b>George “Tad” Aburn (Working Group Lead)</b>	Maryland Department of the Environment
<b>Michael Powell</b>	Business Community Representative
<b>Stuart Clarke</b>	Town Creek Foundation
<b>Private Sector Representatives</b>	
<b>Anne Linder</b>	Exelon
<b>Mike Remsberg</b>	Trinity Consultants
<b>R. Daniel Wallace</b>	Bith Energy
<b>Melanie Santiago-Mosier</b>	Sun Edison
<b>Drew Cobbs</b>	American Petroleum Institute
<b>Tom Ballentine</b>	NAIOP – Real Estate Development
<b>Tom Dennison</b>	Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative
<b>Tom Weissinger</b>	Raven Power
<b>Public Sector Representatives</b>	
<b>Jana Davis</b>	Chesapeake Bay Trust
<b>Mike Tidwell</b>	Chesapeake Climate Action Network
<b>Gerrit Knaap</b>	National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education, University of Maryland College Park
<b>Arjun Makhijani</b>	Institute for Energy and Environmental Research
<b>Joe Uehlein</b>	Labor Network for Sustainability
<b>Anya Schoolman</b>	Community Power Network
<b>Rebecca Ruggles</b>	Maryland Environmental Health Network
<b>Other Representatives</b>	
<b>Chuck Fry</b>	Maryland Farm Bureau
<b>Ben Hobbs</b>	Johns Hopkins University
<b>Brad Karbowsky</b>	United Association of Plumbers and Fitters
<b>Jim Strong</b>	United Steelworkers
<b>Leslie Knapp</b>	Maryland Association of Counties
<b>Alice Kennedy</b>	Maryland Municipal League
<b>Government Members</b>	
<b>Colleen Turner</b>	Maryland Department of Transportation
<b>John Fiastro</b>	Maryland Energy Administration
<b>Matthew Fleming</b>	Maryland Department of Natural Resources

<b>Steering Committee</b>	
<b>George “Tad” Aburn (Working Group Lead)</b>	Maryland Department of the Environment
<b>Michael Powell (Co-Chair)</b>	Business Community Representative
<b>Stuart Clarke (Co-Chair)</b>	Town Creek Foundation
<b>Colleen Turner</b>	Maryland Department of Transportation
<b>John Fiastro</b>	Maryland Energy Administration
<b>Matthew Fleming</b>	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
<b>Susan Payne</b>	Maryland Department of Agriculture

<b>Technical Advisors</b>	
<b>Peter Doo</b>	Green Building Council
<b>Joanne Throwe</b>	University of Maryland Finance Center
<b>Marissa Gillett</b>	Maryland Public Service Commission
<b>Jason Dubow</b>	Maryland Department of Planning
<b>Ken Holt</b>	Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
<b>Barry Powell</b>	Maryland Department of General Services
<b>Debbie Drankiewicz</b>	Maryland State Department of Education
<b>Steve Walz</b>	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
<b>Todd Lang</b>	Baltimore Metropolitan Council
<b>Luke Wisniewski</b>	Maryland Department of the Environment
<b>Michael Leslie</b>	Maryland Department of Commerce
<b>Justin Hynicka</b>	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
<b>Cindy Parker</b>	Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University

## Attachment 2 - Proposed MWG Meeting Schedule for 2016

Date	Agenda Items
February 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislative update and preliminary snapshot of 40 by 30 – MDE</li> <li>• Discuss 2016 work plan</li> </ul>
March 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on legislation</li> <li>• Finalize work plan</li> <li>• Initial briefing/discussion on short-lived climate pollutants</li> </ul>
April 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislative Update – MDE</li> <li>• Enhanced economic analysis including social equity issues                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MDE, outside resource consultants, panel</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
May 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RGGI and the CPP                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MDE overview and panel</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
June 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy efficiency, renewable energy, and grid-of-the-future                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Overview briefing – Outside resource consultant</li> <li>○ Panel with representatives from environmental advocacy, business, and academic communities</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
July 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ZEVs/Electric Vehicles/TCI/EVIC                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Overview briefing – MDE and outside resource consultant</li> <li>○ Panel: manufacturers, infrastructure, more</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Proposed outline/process for MWG input to the 2016 MCCC report</li> </ul>
August 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40 by 30 update</li> <li>• First draft of MWG input for 2016 MCCC report</li> <li>• Innovative financing/Green Bank                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MCEC and panel</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
September 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Meeting with STWG</li> <li>• MWG input for 2016 MCCC report</li> <li>• Methane Leakage                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Panel with representatives from environmental advocacy, business, and academic communities</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Annual program status report</li> </ul>
October 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Meeting with ARWG</li> <li>• Status - 2016 MCCC report</li> <li>• Linking mitigation and adaptation efforts                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ DNR, MDE, panel</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
November 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2016 MCCC report</li> <li>• Forestry and sequestration efforts                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ DNR and panel</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Brainstorm 2017 priorities and work plan</li> </ul>
December 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40 by 30 update/status – MDE</li> <li>• 2017 work plan</li> <li>• 2017 meeting schedule</li> </ul>