

Maryland Commission on Climate Change, Mitigation Working Group

February 29, 2016; 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM
Maryland Department of the Environment

In Attendance: Michael Powell; Stuart Clarke; Anne Lindner; Melanie Sanntiago-Mosier; Drew Cobbs; Tom Weissinger; Jana Davis; Arjun Makhijani; Joe Uehlein; Rebecca Ruggles; Jim Strong; Colleen Turner; Frazier Blaylock; Daniel Engleberg; Todd McGarvey; Marissa Gillett; Gabe Pacyniak; James McGarry; Ian Ullman; Eboni Wimbush; David Costello; Liz Entwisle; Suseel Indrakanti; Jim Frazier; Amy Morsch; Tom Manuccia.

On Phone: Tad Aburn; Susan Payne

Agenda Item #1: Welcome and Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM. Co-chairs described the goals of the meeting to discuss an agenda and workplan for the year ahead.

Agenda Item #2: Briefing on GGRA, 40 by 30, and 2016 Work Plan and Schedule

MDE Air Director Tad Aburn's presentation gave an overview of what a 40% GHG emission reduction by 2030 could entail, and provided a proposed 2016 MWG schedule.

Agenda Item #3: Discussion

- Working group members discussed several difficult issues surrounding the emission growth modeling that will be a part of the planning process for a 2030 goal, including how to account for multiple possible economic growth and technology adoption trends, and how to incorporate equity considerations.
- Members discussed options to monitor existing programs' performance while evaluating their potential impact in 2020-2030,
- Members discussed the timing of agenda items proposed in the presentation, in particular:
 - An expert panel on methane leakage, which will take time to put together in a way that reflects the differing perspectives within the working group; and
 - The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), which is in the midst of its 2016 Program Review.
- Members discussed the process through which potential panelists for upcoming issue-specific meetings should be selected.
- Members discussed whether individual members should be tasked with specific items for exploration in between meetings, with subsequent reports back to the MWG, as appropriate.

Agenda Item #4: Next Steps & Action Items

- Co-chairs committed to discuss the working group's feedback on the proposed 2016 schedule with the steering committee and share a final agenda & workplan.

Agenda Item #5: Public Comments

- The University of Maryland's Center for Smart Growth is co-sponsoring meetings on how to implement the international agreement on climate change reached at the UNFCCC's Conference of Parties in Paris late last year. The meetings will be May 4th through 5th in Washington DC; more information at www.climateaction2016.org

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM.