

# Maryland Commission on Climate Change

## Mitigation Working Group Meeting Minutes

*May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. - 12 p.m.*

Maryland Department of the Environment, Baltimore, MD 21230 – Aqua Conference Room

**Please note there is now a Commission website:**

<http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Marylander/Pages/mccc.aspx>

**In Attendance:** Ben Grumbles - Chair of Commission and Secretary of Environment,  
George Aburn - Maryland Department of the Environment  
Stuart Clarke - Town Creek Foundation;  
Mike Powell – Business Sector Representative;  
Don Halligan - Department of Transportation;  
Kevin Lucas - Maryland Energy Administration;  
Mike Tidwell - Chesapeake Climate Action Network;  
Lynn Heller - Abell Foundation;  
Jim Frazier - Baker  
Richard Ortt - Department Natural Resources  
Dan Nees - University of Maryland  
Renee Orenstein - Department Natural Resources  
Daniel Rider - Department Natural Resources  
Lisa Nissley - Maryland Department of the Environment  
Liz Entwisle - Maryland Department of the Environment  
Tim Shepherd - Maryland Department of the Environment  
Charles Boba - Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
Pam Kasemeyer - SMWPA  
Kate Zyla - Georgetown Law  
Tobin Broberg  
Ian Ullman - For Senator Pinsky  
James McGray - Chesapeake Climate  
David Costello  
Susan Payne - Maryland Department of Agriculture  
Howard Simons - Maryland Department of Transportation  
Kristen Ahearn - Maryland Energy Administration  
Melanie Santiago-Mosier - SunEdison LLC

### **I. Introduction**

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am. Tad Aburn opened the meeting with introductions by chairs, MWG members, and guest.

## II. Overview of the Process

- Discussion of subgroup participation: involvement in the subgroup meetings is warranted for MWG members
- Luke Wisniewski, MDE, provided status updates on the GGRA Programs
- DNR presented: Overall Success and Areas of Improvement
  1. Reduction in Climate programs
  2. Goals for programs
  3. Creating Ecosystem Markets to encourage GHG Emission Reductions
  4. Store Carbon-Midwest Carbon Sequestration
    - Concerns with double counting
    - Geological Opportunities to Store Carbon
    - Additional data that could be captured
    - Questions were raised in reference to land type- private/public: The PowerPoint was inclusive of all land types
    - Working Group Discussion:
      1. What programs should be the focus of our effort?
      2. Where are there untapped opportunities?
      3. Where could resources be better spent?
      4. Where are partnerships needed?
      5. Where else can the State show leadership?
- MEA presented: Progress of EmPOWER and RPS
  1. Post 2015 EmPOWER goals
    - Commission is looking into what to do post 2015 (3-5 goals)
    - EmPower challenges: Rate impact increased over time, Stricter federal guidelines, Efficient Lighting (CFL/LED) saturation increasing
    - EmPower opportunities showing great promise
    - Questions were raised in reference to updates on June 15<sup>th</sup>-presenter stated that information would be updated on that date.
  2. RPS challenges
- Discussion of Commission Report Format

- Does the current outline work?
- How can we improve/modify strawman outline?
- Who is responsible for what sections of the table of contents?
- Outside resources accountability

### **III. Wrap- Up**

- Homework Assignments
- Preparation for Commission meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2015
- Subgroup members

### **IV. Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. by MWG chairs