

Maryland Commission on Climate Change

Mitigation Working Group

April 21, 2017 – 10:00AM - 12:00PM – MDE First Floor Conference Rooms

Meeting Notes

Attendance: Secretary Ben Grumbles, Tad Aburn, Michael Powell, Anne Lindner, Tom Weissinger, Gerrit Knaap, Joe Uehlein, Tamara Toles O’Laughlin, Colby Ferguson, Jim Strong, Colleen Turner, John Fiastro, Christine Conn, Brian Lombardozi (guest speaker, AAM), Earl Lewis (MDOT), Alicia Moran (Weather it Together - Annapolis), Harley Mocker (LNS), Dan Engelberg (National Center for Smart Growth), Hampden Macbeth (Georgetown Climate Center), Jim Doyle (attorney), Larry Liebesman (Citizens Climate Lobby), David Costello (IEER), Brian Bankert (Towson University), Michael Siers (Towson University), David Smedick (Sierra Club MD), Mark Kresowik (Sierra Club MD), James McGarry (CCAN), Margie Brassil (for Delegate Stein), Brian Hug (MDE), Luke Wisniewski (MDE), Scott Zacharko (MDE), Chris Beck (MDE), Chris Hoagland (MDE), Lisa Nissley (MDE), Jess Herpel (MDE), Patrick O’Rourke (MDE), Joe Lutz (MDE), Kaley Laleker (MDE), Erick Thunell (MDE), Liz Entwisle (MDE)

On the Phone: Les Knapp (MACo), Tom Walz (DHCD), Megan Goold (EPA Region III)

10:00AM MWG Meeting Begins

Agenda Item #1 - Introductions

- Brief introductions were provided by Tad and Secretary Grumbles
- Today’s Topic: Clean Energy Business and Manufacturing Jobs
- Mike Powell reiterated that the MWG is looking for more specific proposals and recommendations
 - These should be brought forward earlier rather than later
 - Consider a MWG member to champion your idea

Agenda Item #2 - Update on the State’s 40 by 30 Efforts

- Brian presented regarding the process and some very rough estimates (baseline scenarios and modeling have not yet been completed, but will include a thorough accounting of state and federal programs, and impacts on jobs and the economy)
- Tad noted that if there is something else that we should be including, a program we should be accounting for, now is the time to bring it to our attention so we can incorporate it

Agenda Item #3 - Panel Speakers

- Brian Lombardozi, Alliance for American Manufacturing (“Keep it Made in America” slides available on website)
- Joe Uehlein, Labor Network for Sustainability (“Making a Living on a Living Planet” slides available on website)

Agenda Item #4 - Clean Energy Businesses and Manufacturing Jobs Discussion

- Connecting green jobs could be an important item to bring up at the Governor’s business summit in June - the MWG could benefit from more engagement from Labor
- Need to keep in mind the quality of the job - many fossil fuel industry jobs are unionized, with higher wages and a good benefits package; the green industry jobs in solar currently are lower wages on average and not union.

- Explore marrying procurement policy with climate goals; “buy clean” rather than the lowest bidder, the lowest *qualified* bidder.
- Recommending a transition away from nuclear is short-sighted; 800 high quality jobs at Calvert Cliffs
- Increasing the manufacturing jobs provides more sustained benefits, including additional jobs created in the supply chain.
- It will be important to find options to pay for the proposals (in “Making a Living on a Living Planet”), there may be an issue with the feasibility of the funding sources suggested. In addition it is important to remember there are restrictions in the legislation, including no impacts to the manufacturing sector.
- We have a buy local provision in the plan; may be something we need to spend more time on overall
- Looking at emission shifting, perhaps there is a recommendation that can be made at the federal level to influence a trade agreement
- Ensure commerce and labor are invited to participate in the Workgroup

Agenda Item #5 - Other Business

- none

Agenda Item #6 - Public Comment

- Larry Liebesman (Citizens Climate Lobby) provided information on a proposal for a market-based, revenue neutral carbon fee at the source (e.g. mine, well, port of entry) which would be a dividend paid back to all households.
- David Costello (IEER) proposed that the cost of job losses to climate change be included in the cost-benefit analysis (cost of inaction). In addition he believes, the worst-case-scenario for MDE’s 40 by 30 update is not actually worst-case because it includes the assumption that the 25 by 20 goal is met - by his calculations the State may fall 10-15 MMt short of this goal, and therefore it is incorrect to assume that 0 is worst case when it should be negative.
 - It was requested that these numbers and calculations be provided to MDE for review.

12:20PM Meeting Adjourned