

Maryland Commission on Climate Change

Mitigation Working Group Meeting Minutes

September 03, 2015 from 12:00 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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

In Attendance:

George Aburn - Maryland Department of the Environment, Mike Powell – Business Sector, representative; Mike Tidwell - Chesapeake Climate Action Network; Dan Enyelberg - Center for Smart Growth; Melanie Santiago-Mosier - SunEdison LLC; Tom Ballentine – NAIOP; Tom Weissinger - Raven Power; Melissa Paslick-Gillette – PSC; Kevin Lucas - Maryland Energy Administration; Colleen Turner - MDOT; David Costello; Ian Ullman - For Senator Pinsky Lynn Heller - Abell Foundation; Justin Hynicka – DNR; Joe Uehlein – Labor Network; Anne Linder – Excelon; Tom Dennison – SMECO; Jim Strong – USW; Jim Doyle – Atty- Sparrows Point; Susan Payne - MDA

Phone: Stuart Clarke - Town Creek Foundation

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 am. Tad opened with introductions and reiterated that MDE needs help deciding on the next steps.

Response to Tad’s Presentation (posted on MCCC [website](#))

- MCCC will have to endorse or not endorse MDE report. MWG needs to advise MCCC on the MDE report
- Energy Programs are low-hanging fruit of GHG reductions
- GGRA Programs are under-performing (according to David Costello)
- Enhancements to GGRA programs aren’t being implemented
- Baseline has changed (all sectors) since 2006 calculation
- Overlap in GGRA was very conservative – accommodated uncertainty including, apportionment of reductions
- True-up for 2015 with the best information we have

Discussion of proposed Future Goal: 1/2/3/40 by 2030

- Just a goal
- Rename the GGRA to include economic goals?
- Need more info and data to move forward
- Aspirational goal – we should at a minimum maintain path
- Need to see what other states are doing
- Need a process for MWG feedback to Commission
- Need business community support
- Framework is there but GGRA coalition is fragile

Discussion of MCCC Report (November)

- New RPS goal will not be supported by business community
- Maryland can support a growth industry (Green economy), including solar and wind
- Natural Gas Leakage – address in November report?
- How would NG leakage analysis impact current and historical inventory numbers?
- Technology will have a role in controlling leakage
- MCCC needs feedback from MWG about emerging issues before next meeting

Discussion of Emerging Issues List

- Before 10/8 - MCCC needs feedback from MWG about which issues will be recommendations from the MCCC to the General Assembly and which issues will be reserved for the 2016 Work Plan
- MCCC has enough information to make recommendation beyond extending GGRA?
- Any other issues fully researched and passed through MWG?
- Should the MCCC vote on emerging issues list (by 10/9)?
- Timeline too short.
- Consensus necessary?
- Consensus possible?
- When will emerging issues list be shared with MWG? MCCC?
- Executive Order calls on MCCC to make emerging issues list (2016 Work Plan)
- What role will Report Writing Group have in the MCCC process?
- MWG has to have a role in analysis of each emerging issue
- Need Steering Committee to establish a process to coordinate MWG and MCCC issues (pertaining to emerging issues list)

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. by MWG chairs