2019 Legislative Session Wrap Up

August 8, 2019
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Hartford
By the Numbers

House Introduced: 2424
Senate Introduced: 1143
Public Acts: 201

Even numbered years are short sessions, running from February to May
Odd numbered years are short sessions, running from January to July
* Data set does not include Special Sessions
2018 Air Proposal

Streamline DEEP approval of Municipal Noise Ordinances

- Un-amended since 1978
- Unfunded since early 1980’s
- At least as stringent requirement
- Proposal was put into DEEP Minor Revisions Bill S.B. 998
Tracking and Failed Bills

• ~70 Bills were tracked during the session for the Air Bureau.
• Subject Matter includes:
  – Mobile, Energy, Permitting, Gen Gov’t, Radiation
• Failed Tracked Bills that could show up again:
  – Smoke Detector Recycling
  – OWF Setback Decrease
  – HOV Lanes for EVs
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Summary of Public Act 19-29 (effective October 1, 2019)

Requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to:

- Provide technical assistance and support to any municipality that purchases, leases, or is provided the use of air monitoring equipment to:
  - establish an air quality baseline in the municipality, and
  - determine any effect of the Cricket Valley Energy Center in New York on the baseline.

- The Cricket Valley Energy Center (CVEC) is a 1000 MW natural gas-fired power plant being constructed in Dover, New York.

- CVEC is about 5 miles from the NY/CT border near Kent, CT
DEEP’s Responsibilities under PA 19-29

**DEEP shall** provide technical assistance and support including, but not limited to:

1. Best practices for establishing the baseline (e.g., pollutant levels prior to CVEC operation),
2. Guidance on siting and placing air quality monitors,
3. Information on how to maintain and use the monitors to assure accuracy,
4. Proposed schedules for retrieving data during the calendar year, and
5. Review of and conclusion from the data.

**The General Assembly did not provide DEEP any resources to meet these responsibilities**
Community Based & State Monitoring Network

55 km radius from Cricket Valley

Proposed Network*:
- Air Quality Monitoring Station (AQM)
- Micro Air Quality Monitoring Station (AQY)

Existing Air Monitoring Network
- DEEP Air Monitoring Station

Prevailing Winds

*As of June 15, 2019
Data Acquisition and Review

• Data will be streamed to the equipment vendor’s cloud server, from where it will be available to the towns/coalition and DEEP through secure accounts.

• DEEP will conduct data reviews of all monitors on a periodic basis (monthly++) to assess operation.

• DEEP will review remote calibration and quality control data, as needed.

• At the conclusion of representative monitoring periods before and after plant commissioning, DEEP will analyze the ambient monitoring data and provide a brief written summary of findings.
Recommended Implementation Plan

- **6/17/2019**: Instrument Calibration
- **7/1/2019**: Monitor Siting and Installation
- **7/15/2019**: Install of AQY
  - Initial Data Review (DEEP/towns)
- **2020**: Baseline Air Quality Assessment
- **2020-2021**: Continuation of above for 1 yr from start of plant operation, AQY sensor replacement as needed
- **Ongoing**: Monthly data checks; monthly reviews (DEEP/towns)
Funding & Operational Challenges

- DEEP provided fiscal impact estimates
  - General Assembly did not budget funding to DEEP
  - Based on current network size ~ $85K for 3 years

- Federal grant commitments must be met first

- Monitoring staff attrition

- Community based monitoring opportunities
  - Gain field experience with small sensors
  - Develop citizen science/scientists
  - Locate monitors at schools/engage students
State Budget

DEEP Funding, Clean Air Account
- Good, focus on efficiency, innovation and ensuring continuity of service in light of significant staff attrition

State Fleet Requirements (Sec. 93)
- 50% ZEV Purchases after Jan 1, 2030
- 30% ZBUS Purchases after Jan 1, 2030

CHEAPR (Secs. 94-95)
- CHEAPR Funded for 2020 through 2025
- Additional Provisions (Next Slide)
CHEAPR Program

Funded $3 Million per year for 2020 through 2025

• New EV’s, PHEVs and FCEV
• LMI component for used vehicles w/ max income threshold

New Board of Directors

• DEEP Commissioner or Designee, 3 Appointees
• DCP Commissioner or Designee
• Green Bank President or Designee
• Member of an Environmental Group with EV Experience
• Member of Automotive Retailers Assoc.
• Member of a Group Familiar with EJ Issues
• Political Appointees: Sen. Pres. Pro Tem., House Maj. Leader, Senate Minority Leader
Three Year Motor Vehicle Registrations

Public Act 19-165 extends licenses from 6 to 8 years and vehicle registration from 2 to 3 years

I/M Implications

• Previously – Registration renewal and I/M testing were both two years
  – Registration denial is an effective enforcement method to require I/M testing
  – Registration denial is in the state SIP
  – Registration denial achieves EPA accepted compliance rates
• Under New Bill – Registrations and testing may not coincide.
  – Failed or untested vehicles could drive around for one year before registration is due
  – CT DMV is looking into registration revocation
  – SIP will need to be revised, new I/M contract starting next year
  – Some time as DMV commissioner was given discretion on schedules and timing
Public Act 19-190, section 3

- ENCON officers are authorized to enforce municipal noise ordinances of municipalities that abut Candlewood Lake on the lake.
- If there are multiple ordinances the officer can enforce the most restrictive ordinance.
- DEEP Air, ENCON, Legal are working with municipalities to determine how this will work.
Earth, Wind, and Solar

P.A. 19-112: Fracking Waste Ban
- Previous language required DEEP regulations, no longer necessary

P.A. 19-71: Off-Shore Wind
- Second largest off-shore wind project in the U.S.

P.A. 19-35: Green Economy
- Expanded net metering
- ZREC and LREC extension
- Solar Highways
- Boiler Replacement Program
- EVSE Building Code Planning