

**Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)
Leadership, Accountability, Engagement Working Group
MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: December 9, 2015, 2015

Meeting Time: 2:00 p.m. —4:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
Commissioner's Conference Room, 2nd Floor
Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT

ATTENDANCE

Working Group Members	Title	Organization	Present
Bryan Garcia (co-chair)	President and Chief Executive Officer	CT Green Bank	Y
Scott Jackson (co-chair)	Under Secretary for Intergovernmental Policy	Office of Policy Management	Y
David Robinson	Executive Vice President and General Counsel	The Hartford	Y
John Humphries	Organizer	CT Roundtable on Climate & Jobs	Y
Shannon Laun (on behalf of Don Strait)	Energy & Environment Attorney	Connecticut Fund for the Environment	Y
Melody Currey	Commissioner	Department of Administrative Services	N
Lynn Stoddard	Director	Institute for Sustainable Energy	Y
Katherine Wade	Commissioner	Department of Insurance	Y
Hermia Delaire (on behalf of Evonne Klein)		Department of Housing	N

Associated Staff	Title	Organization	Present
Keri Enright-Kato	Director	DEEP Office of Climate Change, Technology & Research	Y
Jeff Howard	Environmental Analyst	DEEP Office of Climate Change, Technology & Research	Y
Jay Bruns	Vice president of Public Policy in Gov't. Affairs	The Hartford	Y
Stefanie Wnuck	Student	Yale University	Y
Theresa McCarty	Student	Yale University	Y
Monica DiLeo	Student	Yale University	Y

AGENDA & NOTES

Welcome and review of meeting agenda

Scott Jackson, LAE Working Group Co-Chair

- Introductory remarks and review of the agenda
 - Summary of the Stakeholder Engagement Workshop
 - Preliminary report from the Yale team
 - Planning for 2016
 - New items
 - Public Comments

Summary of the December 2nd Stakeholder Engagement Workshop and next steps

Scott Jackson, LAE Working Group Co-Chair

- 2 sessions were held, afternoon and evening. More people attended the afternoon session (58) than the evening (20). The purpose of the workshop was to:
 - Identify critical stakeholders now and into the future
 - Explore strategies for effective communication and engagement
 - Generate ideas on how to ensure accountability and transparency
 - Determine tactics or approaches to inspire ongoing engagement
- Accountability was an important topic throughout the evening for most participants. Stakeholders communicated that it is important to acknowledge and recognize their input and demonstrate that it has been taken into consideration.
- Review of participant mix by category [slide 6]
 - The variety of organizations participating in the workshop was impressive.
- Reviewed format of workshop: small table discussions with a facilitator and note taker at each table. There were a total of 4 table questions and each question had 20 minutes for discussion.
 - In the afternoon session, participants rotated to different tables after every question to mix up the groups. This also allowed for others to meet new people and exchange business cards.
 - Night session had 2 tables with the same group for all questions.
 - Participants of both sessions were asked to submit other ideas on colored sheets of paper. There were also 4 additional questions posted on the wall that allowed for more input from participants (see slide 7).
- Preliminary review of notes - key stakeholder feedback [slides 8 - 9]
 - Frame the overall issue and message in a clear and compelling way, peer to peer learning from success stories, accessible resources.
 - Trust and credibility: how we distribute the information and what we do with the information must be available and clear.
- Overall there was positive feedback from participants about the workshop.
- Next steps [slide 10]
 - All notes have been put into a digital format and sent to Bill Logue, the consultant hired to organize and facilitate the workshop. He will draft a summary of the feedback and recommendations for developing a stakeholder engagement process.
 - Design a stakeholder engagement process based on workshop findings, acknowledging funding and staffing limitations. Assess what are great ideas but are not within current limitations and determine how to pursue the idea if constraints change.
 - Ensure that a system of continuous improvement for stakeholder engagement is utilized. Revisit stakeholder needs and recommendations into the future.

Questions

- Are we circulating a participation list?
 - An e-mail was sent out to everyone asking them to opt out if they did not want their contact information distributed. No one has asked to be removed so we will send out the list of attendees and contact information to all attendees.

Preliminary report from the Yale team

Monica DiLeo and Theresa McCarty, Yale (slides 12-40)

- 26 interviews total. Supplemented interviews with online research to fill in gaps in information.
- Research findings that were most important to stakeholders:
 - Materiality: what matters to them, what drives them, identify key drivers in them
 - Collaboration: critical to figure out what is essential for each group. Climate change means something different to each person. Achieve balanced message, stakeholders are not alone in facing their challenges.
 - Accountability: may require policy solutions; ex. CA EPA Report Cards, Climate Registry
 - Corporate: foster competition, leadership awards, recognition, ownership and involvement at the senior level management has a trickle-down effect.
 - Communities: Provide incentives. Rephrase communications and identify materials to various groups. Feedback loops - create opportunities and space to actively listen to all stakeholders. Focusing on marginalized or underrepresented communities is essential to long term relationships and support.
 - Funding: Foundation funding. Insufficient funding is a limiting factor.
 - Recommendations:
 - Focus on what is meaningful to the day-to-day lives of the target audience
 - What type of actions drives different types of people – deniers, believers, etc.?
 - Do not exaggerate facts.
 - Tap into pre-existing networks
 - Encourage reporting through established reporting frameworks such as the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) or Climate Registry
 - Develop sector-based reporting structures
 - Re-invigorate a climate change award, create friendly competition
 - Create a climate action fellows program
 - Apply an equity lens (taken from the Portland, OR Equity Work Group)
 - Develop a database of foundation funding

Questions/Comments

- How would you see the state facilitating a project similar to the CDP that is not quite as extensive and can be used for small businesses?
 - Have DEEP look at some of the questions the CDP asks and devise a reporting structure and metrics that are important to CT. Leverage other existing organizations to provide a sector based model.
- Next steps – the Yale team will assemble a document with interview data and also have a report that they will be writing summarizing their findings for their December 22 internal deadline.

LAE working group planning for 2016

Bryan Garcia, LAE Working Group Co-Chair

- The process and timeline for the LAE Exploratory Report was reviewed. The report is now due In January, so there is an extra month to work on it.
- The draft will be sent out before the next meeting so it can be looked over and cleaned up. The final draft would reflect all comments.
- A mid-January meeting date to review the Exploratory Report will be sent out.

Questions/Comments

- Where in this process will the group be designing the stakeholder process for the spring?

- After receiving the full set of recommendations from Bill Logue we can put together a more precise engagement plan.

Public comments

Keri Enright-Kato, DEEP

As much as possible, please focus comments on the scope of today's LAE agenda.

- *Joel Gordes, Environmental Energy Solutions:* At the workshop, how many deniers were present that you could identify?

Scott Jackson: I did not encounter any, but one individual, who was representing a labor union, said he did not think his membership necessarily believed in it, but that did not mean they were opposed to taking action. Information had to be presented in a way that made sense to them.

Joel Gordes: Believes that the way that we engage and encourage people and encourage these alternate conversations can get results. In Afghanistan and Iraq, 50% of casualties were due to having to guard the convoys of oil getting to the front line for generators, trucks, etc. As a result, the military has become a big investor in Renewable Energy. Everything is connected to everything else. Glad that we're focusing on that and we really need to continue to do so.

- *Henry Auer, Global Warming Blog:* He has encountered deniers through his writing work. Letters in the Hartford Courant seem to be coming from deniers and it's frustrating. There are ways of countering the public argument that some are putting forward.
- *Lee Grannis, New Haven Clean Cities:* Pass the information down to community leaders, because they know who the deniers are and who the strong ones are. There needs to be more grassroots methods utilized across the board. We are presented with a golden opportunity involve energy task forces in communities.
- *Mike Morrissey, State Director to the Propane Gas Association:* The propane industry really enjoys the opportunity to observe. The other day the Vatican permitted digital imaging of some endangered species that were leaving this planet as a result of climate change. What does propane have in common with the pope? We can make a difference. With greater use of propane maybe we can save some species, maybe even our own. George Longyear, Yale University's Fleet Manager, visited a South Windsor company who does propane conversion fittings. While Mr. Longyear was there, a visitor brought his F-450 into the service bay so people from Yale University could take a look at the vehicle, but forgot to shut the vehicle off and left it running for over 20 minutes. If it ran on gasoline, everyone would have dropped from the exhaust. Propane is no longer the Rodney Dangerfield of energy.
- *Diana McCarthy-Bercury, Eversource:* Yale students, your presentation was wonderful and I would encourage you to look into the psychology of marketing and communication to develop tactics to disarm opponents. The Director of Sustainability in Baltimore advises us to keep channels of communication open to critics, because you receive the best feedback from your biggest critics. If you can keep them by your side you can develop whatever you need to make your arguments stronger.

NOTE: Slides are available on GC3 web page: www.ct.gov/deep/gc3