
**Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)
Mitigation Progress Working Group
Meeting minutes**

Meeting Date: April 24, 2020
Meeting Time: 10:15-11:15 a.m.
Meeting Location: Zoom

ATTENDANCE

Working Group Member	Organization	Present
Paolo Campos	Patriquin Architects	N
Patrick Carleton	CT Metropolitan Council of Governments	Y
Tony Cherolis	Transport Hartford Academy	Y
Jillian Corley	Eversource	Y
Sam Dynowski	Sierra Club	Y
David Elder	CT Department of Transportation	Y
Bill Finch	Discovery Museum & Planetarium	N
Deb Geyer	Stanley Black & Decker	Y
Patrice Gillespie	CT Clean Water Fund/CT Energy Network	Y
Marissa Gillett	CT Public Utilities Regulatory Authority	N
Isabelle Hazlewood	Connecticut Green Bank	Y
John Humphries (co-chair)	CT Roundtable on Climate and Jobs	Y
Melissa Kops	Kops Pirie Associates	Y
Pat McDonnell	United Illuminating	N
Stanley McMillen	University of Connecticut	Y
Bernard Pelletier	People's Action for Clean Energy	Y
Charles Rothenberger (co-chair)	CT Fund for Environment	Y
Tom Swarr	GC3 Equity & Environmental Justice Working Group	Y
Brenda Watson (co-chair)	Operation Fuel	Y

Associated Staff	Organization	Present
James Albis	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	Y
Mary-beth Hart	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	N
Jeff Howard	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	Y
Mike Li	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	Y
Cary Lynch	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	Y
Dino Pasqua	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	Y
Donna Wells	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	Y

Other stakeholders present	Organization
Evan Dantos	Robinson & Cole
Daphne Dixon	Live Green CT
Nathan Frohling	Nature Conservancy
Anne Hulick	Clean Water Action
Shannon King	CT Business and Industry Association
Alan Poirier	
Denise Savageau	CT Council on Soil and Water Conservation
David Sutherland	Nature Conservancy
Guy West	Clean Water Action

AGENDA & NOTES

Welcome

Update on Equity & Environmental Justice process

Facilitated by Tom Swarr, GC3 EEJ WG; Brenda Watson, Operation Fuel; and John Humphries, CT Roundtable on Climate & Jobs)

- Overview of EEJ/Mitigation meeting, 4/22/2020
 - Brenda Watson was invited to present on Mitigation approach at next week's EEJ meeting
 - EEJ WG noted and affirmed Mitigation teams' efforts, but there was some concern about teams' lack of diverse voices (including disability access)
 - EEJ is likely to establish a subcommittee to serve as liaison with the Mitigation WG and provide feedback on process and recommendations
- Brenda requests that teams share the EEJ recommendations from their worksheets for her to present at EEJ meeting
- Given concern that Mitigation teams lack direct EEJ involvement, Brenda volunteers to act as resource for all teams. She will help to integrate and flesh out EEJ focus across Mitigation process, provide feedback to teams, etc.

Updates from WG teams

Facilitated by co-chairs

- *Cross and Non-Energy (Charles Rothenberger, CT Fund for the Environment)* – Continuing to focus on worksheet process. Shifting some Buildings-related items to Buildings team; and shifting some items relating to land use to Working and Natural Lands WG. Beginning to turn attention to drafting text for Mitigation WG section of GC3 report.
- *Electricity (Mike Li, CT DEEP)* – Focusing on worksheet, and need more effort there. Buildings team notes need to share some Community Choice Aggregation recommendations to electricity-sector team's worksheet.
- *Transportation (John Humphries, CT Roundtable on Climate and Jobs)* – Also focusing on worksheet. Seeing need to finish up that process, then assign people to draft material for report.
- *Buildings (Brenda Watson, Operation Fuel)* – Due to shifting situation at Operation Fuel, Brenda will step away from leadership of the team. Bernie Pelletier (People's Action for Clean Energy), who has been active in the team, has agreed to take up this role. Making progress on worksheet; but need to consolidate. Trying to push toward quantification for all items. Have added worksheet columns on "GHG impact" and "Political feasibility" to assist team in prioritizing. WG members note that assessing "political feasibility" is highly subjective and can become a self-fulfilling prophecy; advise substituting "investment required," which is less subjective and less fraught.

Review of timeline and discussion on preparations for WG report

(Facilitated by Mike Li, CT DEEP)

- Review of timeline from first WG meeting in March. WG seems to be reasonably on track, including interaction with EEJ. Need to get to point where we are consolidating worksheets. In May, will move toward drafting text and then finish that in June.
- It would be helpful for teams to be looking across the sector silos, so teams should share worksheets in next week or so.

- Teams need to attend to draft outline for GC3 report, which Jeff Howard circulated to co-chairs on April 21. Some adjustments in outline may be necessary to accommodate overlap between Mitigation and Adaptation. Commissioner's Office also will be finalizing a style template for teams to use.

Interactions between mitigation and adaptation/resiliency

(Facilitated by Charles Rothenberger, CT Fund for Environment; and Jeff Howard, DEEP)

- Cross-sector team has begun coordination with Adaptation Planning WG about how to promote an effort – in both WGs – to encourage synergies, minimize conflicts, and be transparent about conflicts. Jeff and Charles will circulate some guidance to the teams.

Final comments from WG members

- *Bernie Pelletier* – What do we want the public to take from this report? Lots of opportunities for action by vehicle buyers, building owners, et al.?
- *Brenda Watson* – Recommends that teams move EEJ column in their respective worksheets to reside beside new GHG impact and political feasibility columns. This will further highlight importance of EEJ in the teams' continuing work.

Next steps

- Finish spreadsheets, share spreadsheets, comment across teams, and reconvene.

Public comments – (none)

Adjourn