
**Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)
Connecticut Climate Summit
MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Date: April 20, 2021
Meeting Time: 9:00 - 11:00 am
Meeting Location: Zoom
[Meeting Recording](#)**

ATTENDANCE

Attneede	Title	Organization	Present
Claire Coleman			√
Matthew Fulda			√
Kevin Grigg			√
Bryan Garcia			√
Alexandra Daum			√
Andrew Mais			√
Frogard Ryan			√
Katie Dykes			√
Garrett Eucalitto			√
Patrick Brown			√
Lee Cruz			√
Bryan Garcia			√
Debi Geyer			√
Aziz Dehkan			√
Brenda Watson			√
Curt Johnson			√
Jim O' Donnell			√
George Bradner			√
George Kral			√
Rebecca French			√
Alanis Allen			√
Edith Pestana			√
Paul Hearn			√
Jillian Winterkorn			√
Amy Blaymore Paterson (Amy Blaymore Paterson)			√
Kathleen Schomaker (Kathleen Schomaker)			√
Roger Kuhns CCL (Roger Kuhns)			√
Kris Kuhn			√
Shante Hanks (Shante Hanks)			√
Pat Rogers CCL (Pat Rogers)			√
Thomas Swarr			√
ALLEN KRATZ			√
Jamie Flynn (James Flynn)			√
Mark Scully-PACE (Mark Scully)			√
Fred Behringer			√
Rick Newton			√
Lori Mathieu DPH (Lori Mathieu)			√
Doris Johnson DEEP's EJ (Doris Johnson)			√
Brian Thompson			√
jim carson			√

Ralph Jones			√
Marc Favreau (Marc Favreau)			√
Diane Mas			√
Jean Cronin			√
Christine Cohen			√
Ian Alexander			√
John Truscinski			√
Dan Ryan			√
Patrice Gillespie			√
Steven Wallett - DPH Drinking Water (Steven Wallett)			√
Nathan Frohling			√
Chris Kerin			√
Cary Lynch			√
Kate Donatelli			√
Kyle Abercrombie (DECD) (Kyle Abercrombie)			√
Michele Helou (Michele Helou)			√
Ivan Fernandez			√
Kayleigh Royston- CT DOAG (Kayleigh Royston)			√
Tracy A Gionfriddo			√
Freya Bromwich-Center for EcoTechnology (Freya Bromwich)			√
Denise Savageau - CT Council on Soil and Water Conservation (Denise Savageau)			√
Robert maddox			√
DWAYNE ESCOLA			√
Peter Fusaro			√
Evan Dantos			√
Shannon Laun			√
Shubhada Kambli			√
Jack Rose - Eversource EEC (Fill in for Jillian Winterkorn) (Jack Rose)			√
Nicholas Georges			√
Bonnie Potocki			√
Jeff Howard (CT DEEP) (Jeff Howard)			√
T. Morrissey - ALT Fuels Coalition of CT (T. Morrissey)			√
Mason Trumble			√
Holly Lalime			√
Amanda Fargo-Johnson (Amanda Fargo-Johnson)			√
John DiModica			√
Susan Masino			√

Louanne Cooley-CIRCA (Louanne Cooley)			√
Connie Manes (Connie Manes)			√
Ginger Chapman			√
Nora Rizzo			√
Gannon Long			√
Nicolas Esguerra			√
James Albis			√
Sen. Will Haskell (Will Haskell)			√
Lauren Bailey			√
Ken Dumais-DESPP/DEMHS (Ken Dumais)			√
Katie Lund			√
Michael Li (Michael Li)			√
Robert Bell			√
Diane Lauricella			√
Thomas Morgart (Thomas Morgart)			√
Amber Garrard			√
Lisa Hayden			√
Marissa Gillett (Marissa Gillett)			√
Diana McCarthy-Bercury (Diana McCarthy-Bercury)			√
Anji Seth			√
Kathy Fay (Kathy Fay)			√
Ashley Benitez			√
Bernard Pelletier (Bernard Pelletier)			√
Royal Graves			√
Joanna Wozniak-Brown			√
Kim McClain			√
Melissa Meek			√
HENRY LINK			√
Thomas Olson			√
Mike Uhl			√
Julie Paquette			√
Robert Dickinson			√
Charles Rothenberger			√
Michelle Long			√
Kai Starn			√
Peter Millman			√
Christopher Phelps			√
Phone number 1			√
Phone number 2			√

AGENDA & NOTES

DEEP Commissioner Katie Dykes convenes this Governor's Council on Climate Change meeting.

- Roll call of the members of the Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3):
 - o Commissioner Andrew Mais
 - o Aziz Dehkan
 - o Debi Geyer
 - o Lee Cruz
 - o Kevin Grigg
 - o Brenda Watson
 - o Bryan Garcia
 - o Matt Fulda
 - o Kurt Johnson
 - o Claire Coleman
 - o Deputy Commissioner Garrett Eucalitto
 - o George Bradner
 - o George Kral
 - o Kayleigh Royston (designee)
 - o Lori Mathieu (designee)
 - o Deputy Commissioner Hanks (designee)
 - o Patrick Brown
 - o Frogard Ryan
 - o Kyle Abercrombie (designee)
 - o Jim O'Donnell
 - o Ian Alexander (designee)

Meeting Connecticut's 2030 Target

- **Commissioner Katie Dykes:** The Biden administration announcing mid-term targets. States and municipalities show leadership in reducing emissions. PA 18-82 committed our state to achieve GHG reduction of at least 45% below 2001's GHG emissions levels by January 1, 2030
- We have to make progress in addressing emissions from the transportation sector. We have to focus on transportation because emissions are growing in the transportation sector.
- We have made great strides in continuing to decarbonize our electric sector.
- President Biden announced the American Jobs Plan we're anticipating investments in clean mobility options and modernizing EV options and other transportation infrastructure. Includes proposing a program that would emulate successful model of Connecticut Green Bank
- This program can complement programs that we put in place in CT. We have made major commitments to procurements for offshore wind will reduce admissions and contribute jobs. We're excited working with DECD and Department of Labor to work in job opportunities for OSW. Tap into federal dollars or workforce development. Centering equity and EJ in this approach.
- Our Phase 1 recommendations centered on making commitments to 40% of spending and investments and benefits being committed to resilience and adaptation in equity and environmental justice communities. TCI legislation has ratcheted up the commitment to EEJ by ensuring that at least 50% of the revenue that results from the TCI program will be directed to communities that are underserved by the transportation system and overburdened by air pollution.

- Government Ned Lamont's proposed budget includes bond funds for a microgrids and resilience grant and loan pilot program \$30 million in funding for planning and non-federal match
- Highlighting HN6441 and SB 884 as important bills, SB 882 100% zero emission target for energy supply by 2040 and home energy affordability

Panel on Progress towards the 2030 Target

- Senators Christine Cohen, Senate chair of the environment committee
- Climate change mitigating impacts, ensuring environmental justice
- Ensuring a Climate change and coastal resiliency reserve fund
- Legislative proposals this session:
 - o SB 884, TCI create \$89 -117 million for green and clean transportation
 - o SB 931, Hb 6551 both bills will be instrumental in improving air quality.
 - o SB 931 adopting California standards for heavy- and medium duty- vehicles
 - o HB 6551 creating a working group that would create criteria for municipalities in areas that are most harmed by pollutants and takes a portion of our environmental justice statute with regards to permitting and tackles that. Also, regulation of data center electricity use and backup generators
 - o HB 6441 has a heavy focus on resiliency efforts and helping municipalities shore up infrastructure and mitigate climate change.

Will Haskell, chair of the transportation committee

- Transportation and Climate Initiative
- Our transportation system could definitely use an investment.
- Help pave the way to green infrastructure and facilitate a transition to electric vehicle and expand the CHEAPR rebate for e-bikes
- The bill expanding the CHEAPR program to those e-bikes because not everyone can afford electric vehicle HB 6415
- SB 127 would allow the sale of electric vehicles in Connecticut directly to consumers.

Commissioner Katie Dykes moderating questions for Senators:

- In a virtual session what do you find to be the most impactful ways for folks to get involved?
 - o **Senator Cohen:** Social media and email are the best ways to get in contact with us
 - o **Senator Haskell:** just because we see TCI or other bills in the news it may seem like they are done deals but we've got a long fight ahead and a lot of colleagues that need to be convinced. Contact your legislators. Tweeting at them directly is very effective and making sure they are supporting legislation you want them too
- To what extent do you find it helpful to be in touch with other states around the region?
 - o **Senator Cohen:** On the environment side senator Todd Kaminski, chair of the environment committee in New York and I were getting together a regional group of legislators just before the pandemic which we still intend to do but things got derailed, but I think it will be tremendously helpful. I rely on the national conference of environmental legislators a lot because they really pull us together and allow us to understand what is going on in other states what's happening in neighboring states. We are frequently coordinating especially with tci. I have been in touch some of our Massachusetts legislators on tci specifically.
- **Frogard Ryan:** What do you think the challenges are for tci legislation to pass this year?
- **Senator Haskell:** This needn't be a partisan. What is really needed is for folks to start hearing from the people that they represent and from the activists and the experts who are working in the field. There's nothing impactful than been hearing from the folks in their community who are doing the work in this area. I'm hopeful but I'm not in any way I you know assured that this is going to be a sure thing this year.

- **Senator Cohen:** We have a long road ahead TCI is bipartisan, and we have a lot of states involved and also you just look at the media in Connecticut versus Massachusetts. If you open up the Boston Globe you'd be hard pressed to find anything calling TCI a gas tax yet it was the headline when this initiative was announced in Connecticut. We have to constantly combat that narrative and educate people on why this is not a gas tax. That messaging is incredibly damaging as we try to get our colleagues on board to vote for this groundbreaking piece of legislation that we need
- **Commissioner Dykes:** The timing of this bill is really important, and the program works best if we can implement together with other states in the region.
- To what extent is the state benchmarking existing buildings?
 - o **Commissioner Dykes:** As you know, we have, through executive order, one which launched the greener gov CT initiative we have moved forward with an inventory of state buildings and doing benchmarking and audits to assess opportunities for efficiency and renewable investment in our state buildings and that actually this Thursday there's going to be A zoom meeting on Earth Day of our of our greener gov CT steering committee that's going to be happening at 10 o'clock. For folks who may be interested in following along the progress of the greener gov initiative to lead by example and advancing sustainability in state buildings and facilities I encourage you to take part in that meeting
- A question about SB 882 and what that means for the Killingly Power Plants?
 - o **Commissioner Dykes:** SB 882 would establish a zero carbon electric supply requirement for energy that supplied to consumers, here in the state of Connecticut. We highlighted in the draft IRP that DEEP issued several months ago that CT has become a disproportionate host of fossil fuel generation in New England that makes us a net exporter of power to other states in the region And you know it's important that we are prioritizing work with the other New England states pressuring the ISO New England to make reforms to the wholesale energy markets that will deploy more zero carbon resources to balance and integrate that renewable resources that are coming onto the system and to change the forward capacity market that we are paying for as repairs to the wholesale energy markets in a way that remove some of those inherent biases towards investment in fossil generation that are part of that market.
- A question for Senator Cohen of whether she intends to introduce again a bill to put a moratorium on building natural gas power in Connecticut?
 - o **Senator Cohen:** As Connecticut is in that net exporter of energy, I do not believe that we should be building new fossil fuel energy plants, and so I will likely continue to introduce that bill, it does not have a promising future in the legislature. It's very difficult to get the bill passed I have introduced it a couple of times now and there are roadblocks along the way. I am grateful for sb 882 and other efforts underway to reduce carbon emissions and I'm hopeful that if Killingly does move forward that we can do it in a responsible way and create as much attention around the issue, as we possibly can.

Progress Towards the 61 Recommendations of the GC3 (25 minutes)

Dr. Rebecca French presents and explains how progress GC3 recommendations will be tracked in a spreadsheet that will be posted online. Next Rebecca opens the floor to members of the GC3 who would like to highlight steps their organizations/agencies have taken to related to the recommendations.

Curt Johnson, Save the Sound: Really pleased to announce that the Long Island Sound study has included complete engineering for the Chittenden Marsh shoreline softening living shoreline project in Guilford. I mentioned it for a couple of reasons, one is to highlight the importance of the State bonding that you know, has been and is being reviewed by the bonding subcommittee and the finance department, because this is a half million dollar project just to do the engineering and design and we put out a paper a few weeks ago that identifies 19 projects just in that stretch from Guilford down to Bridgeport that have already been identified, to move forward, so it gives a sense of how much coastal resilience nature-based work is needed. I'm really pleased to thank the DEEP for its support for including this as an enhancement grant but remember this is one project of 21 already identified there are many more in that short stretch of coastline, that would be possible. It just shows the incredible importance of continuing to push for ongoing state bonding and state financing, because we know that the feds will be looking for state match, so thank you.

Bryan Garcia, Connecticut Green Bank: Last year in honor of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, we launched the green liberty bonds and tomorrow our 2021 version of the green liberty bonds go on sale. I will comment the link to the website. We designed them to be available to citizens, so they are small denomination bonds modeled after the war bonds of the 1940s. The use of proceeds go to support mitigation efforts here in the state of Connecticut. We have an Earth Day webinar on Earth Day at noon and we've got a recorded special guest Gina McCarthy, who will be joining and opening that earth day webinar. Lastly, as the Commissioner was speaking about with regards to the president's American jobs plan a component of that plan includes the creation of the clean energy and sustainability accelerator, also known as the national climate bank and modeled after the Connecticut green bank. So it would be great to see HB 6441 pass this session because its inclusion of resilience and the expansion of this scope of the green bank to include environmental infrastructure would be well aligned with the clean energy and sustainability accelerator, because that accelerator not only includes mitigation resources but also adaptation and resiliency nature-based solutions.

Frogard Ryan, The Nature Conservancy: We are also celebrating Earth Day with a multitude of events so we will be happy to share that. We are providing leadership, engagement and/or support for 15 of the 61 recommendations, and particularly those that fall into the mitigation and the working and natural lands themes. And we have been specifically active in advocating for the governor's bills on climate mitigation and TCI as well as climate adaptation. In addition, we're keenly interested in the bill's storm water authorities and climate resilience funding. We have been active in support of the New England energy vision and engaged in offshore wind through our Commission on environmental standards as well as a development of a new science tool for offshore wind siting. And regarding mitigation we're now setting up a new initiative that engages business and the paths to clean energy through Connecticut's energy future now project. Our land conservation work and resilient and connected land science model are examples of our efforts around working at natural land themes.

Garrett Eucalitto, CT DOT: We have begun work with the Green Bank to advance two solar projects. Two of our facilities that would generate three megawatts of solar power, hoping that it can go into construction next year. We have the first electric buses in the state and greater Bridgeport transit we have 12 more coming for greater CT transit this year. With the Biden Harris administration's American jobs plan which has \$25 billion earmarked for transit electrification that we could make this the last year we have to purchase a diesel bus in Connecticut. We also have installed, our first EV charging at our Newington headquarters, we have our first electric vehicles in the department transportation fleet. And this year will have an additional 29 Level two chargers here in Newington headquarters with goals to expand that to all of our other DOT facilities so that

we can do a complete fleet conversion over at the DOT. And we've converted 1300 roadway highway lights to led reducing our energy consumption by 50% and our highways and on Thursday we'll be launching our new office of sustainability and resilience with the dedicated staff to that unit.

Commissioner Andrew Mais, Connecticut Insurance Department: In Connecticut we're a member of the National Association of insurance commissioners, which is the umbrella group that 56 chief insurance regulators throughout the country belong to, and together we did a survey that was released earlier this month with 2500 responses. 75% of the respondents said extreme weather events are happening more frequently, because of climate change. 77% of the respondents said they would be willing to spend their own money to fortify their home in exchange for reduction and their Homeowners insurance premium. And the plurality 42.5% said they'd spend between 520 \$500 and another 16.5 % say they'd spend between 20 550 \$500, and this is a nationwide survey. Personally, as part of the leadership of the NAIC I met with the Vice Chair of the Federal Reserve Bank within the past couple of weeks and climate change is at the top of our agenda and the feds agenda and treasury is working to see the economic effects of climate change. At the NAIC and in Connecticut we're working on a number of disclosure items and Connecticut is one of the six states that's been a leader in getting Companies to disclose both underwriting and investments for climate change. We're trying to move everybody towards the PCFD disclosure form so there's a template. We also are exploring regulatory approaches as well as sustainability, resilience and mitigation issues related to the insurance industry. We're working with industry to better understand their investment decisions as it relates to fossil fuels and we've been working on resilient construction standards. Also planning a Connecticut Conference on Climate Change and Insurance in the fall.

Brenda Watson, Operation Fuel: Energy affordability is a complex issue and where poverty is the single largest determinant of health and absolutely a barrier to economic stability and development, we want to achieve energy equity here at Operation Fuel. We want to do that by ensuring energy policy favors the most vulnerable. Operation Fuel is taking what we learned through the GC3 process and plan as a guide for our programming. We are in the process of developing a fuel switch program centering the most challenged applicant confronting the barrier at home. Rather than use ratepayer funds to replace boilers, furnaces or water heaters, in which doing so adds another 12 to 15 years of fossil fuel use in those homes. We're on a small but impactful scale where we can develop programs that will reduce energy burden build awareness connect customers to their energy providers and bridge that gap between the misinformation train and focus on facts on renewables and tech clean energy tech. We believe this to be the best use and an investment or ratepayer and individual donor funds. Energy is complex and amplifying weatherization and access to renewables and energy, education is a response to poverty.

Deputy Commissioner Shante Hanks, Department of Housing: With housing retrofits we're working with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Connecticut Finance Housing Authority, Green Bank and others to support proposed legislation which will establish an energy efficiency retrofits grant Program. The program will award grants to its existing affordable housing for energy efficient upgrades and remove all barriers to these upgrades such as gas leaks hazardous materials and mold (supports GC3 recommendations #3 and 7). We're working with our partners at CFHA to implement a progressive system of awarding funding to those projects that meet the highest standards for energy efficiency including onsite solar and benchmarking those requirements (supports GC3 recommendations #3, 7, 8 and 9). DOH has initiated an effort to coordinate existing energy efficiency programs, so that we can understand the best way to direct our efforts and educate residents how to take advantage of these programs (supports GC3

recommendations #8). We're also working on our resiliency planning and infrastructure projects like Resilient Bridgeport (supports GC3 recommendations #50 and 55). We're going to continue our work with DEEP's flood management certification programs and the high standards for building resiliency and resident's safety for affordable housing development near a floodplain (supports GC3 recommendations #50). Also improving designer innovation standards for affordable housing facilities for vulnerable residents such as the elderly and disabled to provide safe shelter in place options in the event of storms or power outages (supports GC3 recommendations #51, 54, and 55).

Lee Cruz, Community Foundation of Greater New Haven: We are doing work with a group of students from Yale University and the Vermont Law School who have been tasked with connecting with residents of Hartford, New Haven Willimantic, and Bridgeport and they're working with groups that include Black Lives Matter, IRIS, which is a refugee resettlement program, the Community Alliance for Research and Engagement (CARE) and the CT Environmental Justice Coalition. With the support of these organizations that are being provided compensation we are reaching out to their networks to get feedback on our plans and the plans that you've helped develop.

Kevin Griggs, Fuss & O'Neil: I have been using my position on the CBA executive committee to try and build stronger partnerships between the private and public sectors, because I think that partnership is going to be essential to TCI as well as a variety of other related bills and initiatives, I am not alone in that would like to recognize Deb Geyer from Stanley Black and Decker and Patrick Brown from the Hartford who have been as helpful or more helpful than I have been in that regard with regard to Fuss & O'Neil, I want to just focus briefly on both what we're doing in the building and transportation sectors with regard to transportation. We are hoping to convert our mostly hybrid fleet into an electric fleet obviously that will have something to do with the success of that TCI. We are going to be moving to a more energy efficient space in the near future. The GC3 recommendations have caused us to look at our entire corporate sustainability policy and we're in the process of revising it to ensure conformity with the recommendations.

Deb Geyer, Stanley Black and Decker: We officially launched our 2020 year in review or what we're calling our consolidated ESG report (Environment, social and governance) highlighting our progress both qualitatively and quantitatively towards our company's movement to become carbon positive by 2030 so eliminating all of our greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and actually offsetting portions of other carbon emissions. We are driving a lot of EV on our own infrastructure across some of our European plants, but it is something that we need to focus on in Connecticut we do have EV charging stations ready to go at our locations, especially our world headquarters, based in new Britain. The capacity of electric vehicles, the charge range, the charge limitations that's really holding back not only our employees, but we feel communities to drive electric vehicles. To get us to ultimately zero renewable and clean energy that way so just a couple of highlights of the things that we, as a business in the state of Connecticut are looking at from a global perspective.

Patrick Brown, The Hartford: We're releasing our latest sustainability highlight report in mid-May so they'll give a current view of the progress that we're making an emissions reductions and other actions that were taking our sustainability journey. We have a 46.2% goal of reduction by 2037 from 2015 base levels and we joined about 309 other companies in an open letter to President Biden recently calling for the administration to adopt a target of cutting greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50% by 2005 levels by 2030.

Commissioner Dykes: We have a very detailed spreadsheet tracking the 61 recommendation and providing follow up on resources and implementation opportunities. The legislative process is a key focus due to regulatory processes and funding opportunities. Working groups have taken a pause.

Dr. Rebecca French presents remaining tasks of Executive Order 3 for the Governor's Council on Climate Change and Next Steps.

- Establish a framework/ State Vulnerability Assessment Framework Working Group
- Compile a comprehensive State Agency Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency report
- Continuation of Equity and Environmental Justice and Infrastructure and Land Use Adaptation Working Groups
- Implementation of Working Group Needs

Public Participation

- "Climate Talks in the Parks"
- Social Media and Newsletters
- Creation of Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy Equity Team

****Public Comments****

Chris Kerin: I'd like to thank everyone for your good work Connecticut's a leader in combating climate change, and this report will serve as a model across the nation. The EPA identifies electricity, as a number one cause of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide, which you address in your report, but coming in a close second is agriculture. It will be impossible to meet Paris climate goals without major changes to how we eat. A recent study by Yale university found "food production is among the leading sources of the greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming. Food production generates up to 30% of total global emissions and is also significant contributor to biodiversity loss, deforestation freshwater use and land use change. The production of livestock generates the highest levels of greenhouse gas emissions, whereas the production of fruit and vegetables generates the lowest levels." The Yale study concludes that shifting to a more plant based diet is critical to reducing global warming. According to Harvard University cattle grazing generate massive amounts of methane and carbon dioxide both of which are potent greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. Harvard promotes a plant based diet, as part of their climate change initiative. It costs nothing and has an immediate positive impact, a study by Oxford University found that a plant based diet can reduce a person's carbon footprint by up to 73% far more than flying less or buying an electric car. According to Harvard School of Public Health there was strong evidence that a plant based diet is the optimal diet to living a long and healthy life. So from a social equity viewpoint, in addition to carbon mitigation a plant based diet leads to good health and lower health care costs which benefits are underserved communities. The world scientists warning of a climate emergency which is signed by over 11,000 leading scientists and 153 countries concludes, "Eating mostly plant based foods, while reducing the global consumption of animal products can improve human health and significantly lower greenhouse gas emissions. Moreover, this will free up croplands for growing much needed human plant food instead of livestock feed, we are releasing some grazing land to support natural climate solutions." Finally, in your report you reference, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, or the IPCC. The IPCC special report on climate change, promotes a plant based diet as a major opportunity for mitigating climate change and includes a policy recommendation to reduce me consumption, the chair of the IPCC studies said, "It would be beneficial for both climate and human health, if people in many rich countries consumed less meat and of politics, would create appropriate incentives to that effect." So my question is this why aren't you promoting a plant based diet and you're taking action on climate change report.

Allen Kratz, Resilience Works LLC: I help communities find funding for climate resilience infrastructure and just really am very impressed with all the work that you're doing and looking at building local funding capacity to leverage existing and new funding. It's very impressive to see what Connecticut is doing to give our future, a future, so thank you all for your hard work.

Denise Savageau, CT Council on Soil and Water Conservation: I was a member of the natural and working lands subgroup and I just want to commend the team for all the work that we've done and the great legislation that has moved forward, I do want to make one comment, and that is that we need to continue to look at the nexus between food, clean water and energy it's all tied together and we need to be able to move forward so when we're looking at working groups and working at infrastructure, we do need to address this issue. I think the pandemic, let us know the importance of local food supplies, let us know the importance of our outdoor spaces and that we need to be thinking about these as we move forward so with all of the great work on the greenhouse gas initiatives that we're moving forward with and I fully support those I think that the work that's coming out that's looking at how do we do climate change adaptation needs to also be an important part of this. We need to make sure that if we're looking at vulnerability assessments for state properties and state infrastructure if we're looking at having that as a work group and then infrastructure and land use that we can't forget how the work that was done by the working and natural lands group fits in. We again look at that nexus, as I said, between food, clean water and energy we're not going to get where we need to go if we don't do that we're not going to be able to be climate resilient because it's not just about reducing greenhouse gas and doing mitigation, we need to do this adaptation piece, and certainly looking at our working and natural lands has a role in both so I just want to make sure that as we move forward we've looked at how that is going to happen. I just want to make a comment because of the comments that were made earlier is that there's some real balance that needs to be done with local food supplies, and a lot of the information that is out there, promoting only a plant based diet is not necessarily looking at what is best for the land it's not what regenerative agriculture is telling us, we need to do. So there's a lot of different and diverse opinions on that and I think we need to be making sure that we make those decisions. I'm looking at all of the factors when we're talking about how we're going to move forward with the food supply, and I think one of our biggest challenges that we need to look at as a northeast region is what's happening globally with our food supplies. And that has to be with Florida underwater because the sea level rise with California and wildfires two of our main suppliers or fruit and vegetables. And then, with a changing climate and temperatures what's the role of the Northeast what's the role of Connecticut and the Connecticut River Valley, as one of the most productive regions in the country. What is going to be our role in terms of regional agriculture, and I think we need to really pay attention to that in terms of what we're talking about food supply local food supply. And certainly, the other aspects of having local food related to transportation refrigeration. The whole supply chain system related to food supply, again we saw that during the pandemic, so we know what the problem is, so I just want to make sure that we really pay attention to that.

Commissioner Dykes adjourns the meeting

Chat Record

00:21:25 kris Kuhn: Helpful in the future please with introductions to clarify each person's role. Thank you.

00:22:01 Jeff Howard: Would be good to add affiliations to name tag (using the Rename function).

00:22:54 Freya Bromwich: I agree that would be very helpful

00:23:38 Jeff Howard (CT DEEP): Hover in top right corner of your image to see the Rename function.

00:51:54 Rick Newton: re ev charging stations: Mystic, a tourist town has TWO ev charging stations.

00:55:11 Rebecca French: TO GC3 Members - you can write your question for legislators here or I can call on you.

00:58:29 Frogard Ryan, The Nature Conservancy: Question for Senator Haskell: What do you think the challenges and chances are of the TCI legislation passing this year?

00:58:30 Rebecca French: we will take written questions from all meeting attendees.

01:00:54 Kai Starn: Commissioner Dykes - to what extent is the state benchmarking existing buildings (MF + Commercial)? Is the municipal utility data public?

01:01:11 Ralph Jones: What is the story about the Killingly power plant? I see that SB882 as drafted says those emissions don't count as the power goes to other states. Doesn't that miss the point?

01:03:34 Peter Millman: Does Sen Cohen intend to introduce again a bill to put a moratorium on building natural gas plants in CT?

01:05:14 Freya Bromwich-Center for EcoTechnology: In promoting alternatives to traditional building demolition and support a shift to lower-carbon consumption patterns. I'd like to hear thoughts in the adoption of a deconstruction/diversion ordinance to require the reuse/recycling of construction materials vs demoing commercial blgs and residential homes.

01:06:51 Diana McCarthy-Bercury, Town of Branford: Is there consideration to prohibiting homeowner associations, condo associations and landlords from restricting homeowners, condo owners and lessees from installing solar energy?

01:08:42 Bryan Garcia - CT Green Bank: The Governor is committed to environmental justice and ensuring more investment in low-to-moderate income families and communities of color. It was the foundation to the efforts of the GC3 through its Energy and Environmental Justice Working Group. How will the policies we are advancing this session benefit vulnerable communities?

01:11:19 Ralph Jones: So why must Killingly be built and emit 2.2 million tons CO2 per year

01:12:19 Amy Blaymore Paterson, CLCC: A comment: A big thanks to Senators Cohen and Haskell and the leadership and members of the Environment Committee for their support of HB 6441. As Commissioner Dykes said, there is a lot at stake with this legislation -- providing municipalities with options to fund resilience and other environmental projects, and the match dollars needed to leverage existing and impending federal and other critical funding sources. CT Land Conservation Council looks forward to working with you all to get this bill across the finish line.

01:12:58 Kathleen Schomaker, she,her: thanks for your leadership in the GA!

01:22:35 Kathleen Schomaker, she,her: Wow! Great news from the Green Bank about emerging possibilities for resilience from the Fed!

01:24:05 Bryan Garcia - CT Green Bank: Green Liberty Bonds on sale tomorrow for retail investors (individuals) - go to www.greenlibertybonds.com

01:26:10 Claire Coleman, OPM: Amazing work Garrett and CTDOT!

- 01:26:48 Bryan Garcia - CT Green Bank: Agree with Claire - excellent work Garrett and CTDOT!
- 01:30:43 Steven Walleit - DPH Drinking Water:
<https://www.ctgreenbank.com/2021webinarseries/>
- 01:30:51 Kathleen Schomaker, she,her: Thanks for great leadership by Andrew Mais on the important business of insurance.
- 01:34:25 Bryan Garcia - CT Green Bank: #ReduceEnergyBurden #OperationFuel - great work Brenda!
- 01:34:52 Kathy Fay: So honored to be part of Operation Fuel's fuel- switching pilot for the most vulnerable!
- 01:35:31 Brenda Watson, Operation Fuel: Looking forward to breaking down silos and collaborating with you and your team Kathy!
- 01:37:46 Diana McCarthy-Bercury, Town of Branford: Great work and updates everyone. Thank you for this opportunity to learn more about what is happening and what is coming.
- 01:39:35 Diane Lauricella: Thank you Commissioners, Staff and GC3 Members for all of this groundbreaking important work! As a member of the GC3 Equity and EJ Working Group, I am so very hopeful that the moon and stars are aligning...Onward!
- 01:43:48 Bryan Garcia - CT Green Bank: Great work Deb - thank you for Stanley Black & Decker's leadership - <https://www.stanleyblackanddecker.com/who-we-are/2020-esg-report/>
- 01:46:01 Bryan Garcia - CT Green Bank: Excellent Patrick on The Hartford - 50% reduction of 2005 levels by 2030 - incredible! Businesses can do it and are doing it as evidenced by The Hartford's leadership!
- 01:47:06 Jeff Howard (CT DEEP): We need to begin publicizing the practicalities of EVs -- help people move beyond the mentality that a vehicle needs a "range" comparable to that of a gas vehicle. In reality, many EV drivers routinely charge daily -- at home, at work, at the mall, etc. -- and rarely have to think about, much less fret about, how many miles they can go before they run out of energy. They also do not have to spend time at the gas station, and their ongoing maintenance costs (and hassle) are greatly reduced. This kind of consideration deserves at least as much attention as "range anxiety."
- 01:47:57 Charles Rothenberger: Great points, Jeff.
- 01:47:59 Frogard Ryan, The Nature Conservancy: Thank you, Rebecca, for your continued guidance and leadership.
- 01:50:55 Kathleen Schomaker, she,her: We also need more detailed info about the cost efficiencies of EV's while we focus on expanding accessible EVSE. Consumers need to see the dollar-cost comparisons as well as access to EVSE on neighborhood scale. Need to serve folks currently living in homespaces that do not include EVSE for home charging--in Multi-Unit Housing, condos, no driveway or garage, etc.
- 01:52:11 Kathleen Schomaker, she,her: speaking for the "grassroots" from my EV-driver perspective and what I hear from folks on a regular basis.
- 01:52:49 Denise Savageau - CT Council on Soil and Water Conservation: State vulnerability needs to include "green infrastructure" and should include looking at the Working and Natural lands group as a cross over group.
- 01:56:30 Gannon Long: Climate talks in parks sounds awesome.
- 01:57:31 Amy Blaymore Paterson, CLCC: Love the Climate Talks in the Parks! Please tap into the state's land trust community for venues across the state! Happy to assist, as always.
- 01:58:08 Frogard Ryan, The Nature Conservancy: +1 Amy, I, too, love the idea of Climate Talks in the Parks!
- 02:01:46 Doris Johnson DEEP's EJ: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/State-Parks/Listing-of-State-Parks>
- 02:02:09 Doris Johnson DEEP's EJ: The web link is a list of all state parks

- 02:02:22 Chris Kerin: Yale – Climate Change and the American Diet.
<https://climatecommunication.yale.edu/publications/climate-change-and-the-american-diet/2/>
- 02:03:09 Chris Kerin: World Scientists' Warning of a Climate Emergency
<https://academic.oup.com/bioscience/article/70/1/8/5610806>
- 02:03:18 Chris Kerin: University of Oxford – Reducing food's environmental impacts through producers and consumers.
<https://science.sciencemag.org/content/360/6392/987>
- 02:05:12 Kathy Fay, NHS New Haven: I Heart My Home CT: Thank you Chris and Denise, food production is an important aspect of climate change mitigation that is often overlooked.
- 02:05:40 Kathleen Schomaker, she,her: We need to focus on Food Security as we work on shift in diet choices to mitigate CC.
- 02:06:31 Susan Masino: I'd like to really emphasize strongly the need for purposeful and proactive multisolving as laid out in the Science and Technology report. Solving complex problems effectively in a way that is financially, socially and environmentally responsible requires people with that ability to solve multiple problems at the same time and requires interdisciplinary unbiased analyses. Breaking out of silos and conflicts of interest will enable us to achieve optimal outcomes for people and the planet. Thank you for your work!
- 02:07:15 Amanda Fargo-Johnson, CT RC&D: We also need to consider the amount of land acres that our farms steward in the state and ensure that we are supporting them for carbon sequestration work they can accomplish.
- 02:07:44 Ashley Benitez: Thank you for all your efforts. I agree with Chris and Denise. I hope to see more adaptation planning moving forward.
- 02:08:15 Doris Johnson DEEP's EJ: Thank you
- 02:08:20 Anji Seth: Thank you for your efforts!
- 02:08:24 Amy Blaymore Paterson, CLCC: Thank you!