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

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**Meeting Date:** Feb. 28, 2020

**Meeting Time:** 9:30-11:00

**Meeting Location:**  
DEEP  
10 Franklin Square  
New Britain

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>Working Group Member</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Present</b>
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 (co-chair)	CT Public Utilities Regulatory Authority	Y
Isabelle Hazlewood	Connecticut Green Bank	Y
John Humphries (co-chair)	CT Roundtable on Climate and Jobs	Y
Melissa Kops	Kops Pirie Associates	Y (phone)
Pat McDonnell	United Illuminating	Y
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	N

<b>Associated Staff</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Present</b>
James Albis	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	Y
Marybeth Hart	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	Y
Jeff Howard	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	Y
Jeremy Hunt	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	Y
Stefanie Keohane	Public Utilities Regulatory Authority	Y
Mike Li	Department of Energy & Environmental Protection	Y

## AGENDA & NOTES

### Welcome and Announcements

Introduction of working group (WG) members and DEEP staff

### Goals for WG

*Facilitated by Mike Li, DEEP*

- Broad goals are laid out in Executive Order 3 ([link](#)), which requires:
  - Prioritizing, integrating, and advancing equitable distribution of the costs and benefits of climate change mitigation planning and policies, specifically addressing disproportionate impacts of such strategies on environmental justice communities;
  - A description of how such strategies are being integrated into existing and new agency policy planning efforts;
  - Evaluation of the efficacy of existing and proposed policies and regulations aimed at reducing GHG emissions; and
  - Identification of new and emerging mitigation strategies that maximize climate change adaptation and resiliency opportunities while ensuring the state is on a sustainable path to meet its reduction targets.

### Update on Equity & Environmental Justice WG

*Facilitated by James Albis, DEEP*

- Overview:
  - Stands ready to work with other WGs to ensure that attention to equity and environmental justice considerations are incorporated throughout GC3's work.
  - EEJWG has appointed Tom Swarr as liaison to this group. Tony Cherolis attended first EEJWG meeting.
- Discussion:
  - *Cherolis* – Concerned about lack of diversity within this WG and about segregation of Equity and Environmental Justice WG from other WGs. Also concerned that timing and location of WG meetings could present an obstacle to community participation; suitable timing, location, and provision of food/beverages would help make such participation possible.

### Review of 2017 GHG inventory and 2018 GC3 report

*Facilitated by Jeremy Hunt, DEEP*

- Slide presentation
  - 2017 GHG emissions (most recent year for which full data are available)
  - Reduction targets; emissions by sector; GC3's 2018 reduction strategy recommendations
- Discussion:
  - *Pelletier* – Recommends addition of “immediate indicators” for GHG emissions that would supplement official state GHG inventory and partially eliminate the inventory's 2- to 3-year lag (which results from delay in receiving full data from U.S. EPA)
  - *Cherolis* – Inventory does not account for full lifecycle emissions; this leaves gaps in CT understanding of most effective strategies for global and EJ-sensitive strategies
  - *Gillett* – Does DEEP have a dashboard? Hunt: No. Is inventory methodology transparent? Howard: Yes.
  - *Li* – Need to do presentation and/or webinar on inventory.

## Working group process

Facilitated by Mike Li, DEEP

- Review of co-chairs and DEEP staff assigned to each sector
 

<u>Sector</u>	<u>2018 report (<a href="#">link</a>)</u>	<u>Co-chair</u>	<u>DEEP staff</u>
Cross	pages 18-21	Rothenberger	Howard & Hunt
Electricity	22-26	Gillett	Howard
Transportation	26-34	Humphries	Hunt
Buildings	34-39	Watson	Howard
Non-energy	39-40	Rothenberger	Hunt
- Co-chairs reflect on sector priorities:
  - Cross-sector — Broad scan; evaluating legislation; TCI relevant for carbon price; opportunities and challenges
  - Electricity — Review of recommendations; attention to distribution vs. transmission-level strategies; some PURA dockets are relevant; focus on actionable strategies and
  - Transportation — Updating numbers to determine progress; bring EV roadmap into picture; transit electrification; EJ lens might point to geographic detail; VMT; sustainable funding update
  - Buildings — Vulnerable communities; clarification of inventory sectors that are relevant
  - Non-energy — Short-lived climate pollutants (e.g., methane) are a key here; PURA efforts in this regard; emerging federal framework on these pollutants
- Review of proposed timeline
 

Feb. 28	First WG meeting
March	Sector teams begin work WG meeting — Review sector team process
April	Sector teams consult with EEJ WG WG meeting — Sector teams give status updates
May	Sector teams draft their reports, consult with EEJ WG WG meeting — Sector teams give status updates
June	Sector teams provide draft reports to WG EEJ WG reviews draft team reports WG meeting — Discussion of draft reports
July	Sector teams submit revised draft reports EEJ WG reviews revised draft team reports WG meeting — Review revised draft team reports
August	WG develops draft report, briefs Commissioner WG meeting — Review draft report WG submits draft report to Commissioner
Sept.	WG submits draft report to GC3 GC3 releases draft report for public comment
October	WG receives public comments on draft report WG meeting — Review of public comments WG briefs Commissioner on public comments WG develops final report
November	WG meeting — Review of final report
December	WG submits final report to GC3
January 15	GC3 submits final report to Gov. Lamont
- Discussion:
  - *Kops* — Concerned about overlap between Buildings and Electricity sectors.
  - *Dynowski* — Need to make sure each sector has firm targets (some do not in 2018 report) and appropriate pathways for the targets. There are strong strategies for beneficial electrification, but fewer for decarbonization via greening of grid.
  - *Pelletier* — Grid greening essential for leverage in other sectors. Need to develop strategies for municipalities. Can we ask for additional data?

- *Albis* – Need to identify data gaps and figure out which can be addressed.
- *Humphries* – Perhaps can get assistance from GC3's Science & Technology WG.
- *Albis* – Yes, S&T WG potentially can help in filling data gaps.
- *Cherolis* – Affordable housing and gentrification are hazards to be avoided. How bring that into efforts of this WG?
- *Gillespie* – What is status of EV roadmap? Hunt: Expected to be released in next couple of months.
- *McDonnell* – Urban renewal and attendant issues are covered where? *Albis*: This WG's Building sector team plus a couple of others.
- *Cherolis* – From EJ standpoint, important to make everything transparent. Also recognize that workday meetings excludes some interested parties.
- *Swarr* – Lifecycle analysis is essential.

**Next steps**

- Co-chairs will get sector teams under way, with assistance from DEEP.
- DEEP will coordinate schedule of sector team meetings and report it to WG members as well as stakeholders.
- DEEP will propose dates for monthly meetings of WG

**Public comments**

*Stan Caspersson* – Member of CT Academy of Science & Engineering, which has done studies for DEEP; member of Eversource working group on efficiency; retired nuclear engineer. State's zero-carbon plans do not seem to provide a role for nuclear power, without which CT's GHG profile would be considerably more challenging. Electrification requires increased generation. Lifecycle analysis essential for effective decision making.

**NOTE:** Slides are available on GC3 web page: [www.ct.gov/deep/gc3](http://www.ct.gov/deep/gc3)