
Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: September 21, 2021

Meeting Time: 9 am - 11 am

Meeting Location: Zoom

RECORDING

https://ctdeep.zoom.us/rec/play/Jx_krVSYzkrGlkKJMZsHcr04yWKKHqIzmMkLXE5m1SwvOvtmui2H6e0KYHUgdMqGAkXFj9DaCct9qo4.5j6K1USABr_RC4Fr?continueM ode=true

ATTENDANCE

Name
Rebecca French
Katie Dykes
Kevin Grigg
Natasha Dolmon
Mike Morrissey
Leah Haas
Amy Blaymore Paterson
Lynn Towill
Susan Miller
Rick Newton
Kimberly Stoner
Charles Leigus
Marcella Micillo
Amy McLean
Jason York
Frogard Ryan
Joseph Mullin
Julia Martinez
Mary-beth Hart
Jeffrey Beckham
Nicholas Georges
Jeff Howard
Amanda Clark
Carl Gruszczak
Rick Jacobson
Brian Thompson
Shane Allan
Harry White
Christopher Phelps
Tracy Gionfriddo
Patricia Taylor
Shubhada Kambli
Cary Lynch
Joe Cooper
Claire Coleman
Peter Millman
Christine Hahn
Alex Rodriguez
Garrett Eucalitto

james O'Donnell
Daphne Dixon
Chelsea Gazillo
Paul Mailhot-Singer
Kaitlyn Cyr
Allen Kratz
Ryan Levandowski
Wayne Cobleigh
Mike Uργο
Sarah Krame
Diane Mas
David Anderson
PAUL HEARN
Michele Helou
Craig Peters
Jillian Winterkorn
Steven Wallett
Jennifer O'Brien
Cynthia Watts-Elder
Fred Behringer
nathan frohling
MONICA MESCHIATTI
Katie Lund
Lori Mathieu
aaron goode
Joseph Marrone
Peter Brunelli
Tamara Muruetagoiena
Jessica LeClair
Andrew Mais
John Truscinski
Lilian Ruiz
Paul aresta
Michael Malmrose
Laura Bozzi
Alexandra Daum
Mason Trumble
George Bradner
Patrice Gillespie
James Hutton
Jennifer Reilly
Francis Pullaro

Ralph Jones
connie mendolia
Lori Brown
Ian Alexander
Brenda Watson
Robert Stein
Stephanye Clarke
David Giordano
Kathy Fay
Kimberly Lesay
Lee Cruz
aicha woods
Kip Kolesinskas
Joanna Wozniak-Brown
Eric Hammerling
Betsy Gara
Edith Pestana
Ryan Bingham
Patrick McKee
Kristin Barendregt-Ludwig
Holly Lalime
Ken Dumais
George Kral
Ruth Canovi
Rachel Scott
Alicea Charamut
Randall Anway
Charles Rothenberger
Emily Pysh (CT DOT)
David Murphy
Mark Mitchell
Mike Uhl
Orlando Velazco
Lisa Hayden
Aaron Budris
Kyle Abercrombie
Louanne Cooley
Maisa Tisdale
Aaron Budris (NVCOG) (Aaron Budris)
Eric Hammerling (Eric Hammerling)
Paul Wessel
Todd Berman

Monica Meschiatti (MONICA MESCHIATTI)
Amanda Clark (Amanda Clark)
Diane Mas (Diane Mas)
Emily Pysh (CT DOT) (Emily Pysh)
Allen Kratz (Allen Kratz)
Jeff Howard (CT DEEP) (Jeff Howard)
Susa Quincy
Andrew Droney
Susan Quincy (Susa Quincy)
henry auer
Melissa Kops
Shawn Konary
Robert LaFrance
Lilian Ruiz- Council on Soil and Water Conservation (Lilian Ruiz)
Leticia Colon
Gioia Connell
David Gable
Brenda Bergeron
Anne Hulick
Dana Mowry
lynne bonnett
Huan Ngo
Maryam Elahi
Aziz Dehkan
Phone Number 1
Phone Number 2
Phone Number 3
Phone Number 4
Phone Number 5

AGENDA & NOTES

Welcome by DEEP Commissioner Katie Dykes

Roll call by Rebecca French (see attendee list)

GHG Inventory and 2021 Legislative Session

Katie Dykes:

We will briefly share results of the 2018 Connecticut Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report with GC3 members.

- We are not on track to meet the targets established for our state for 2030.
- We have a number of different benchmarks we have to meet over time in reducing emissions.
- The latest year we have available is 2018 which causes lag but even so we have very significant reductions to make in order to meet the 2030 target
- Our emissions increased between 2017 and 2018 and that is not consistent with the path we should be on
- We have 3 major sectors that contribute about 75% of the greenhouse gas emissions in our economy: the electric power sector, transportation sector and building sector (residential, commercial, and industrial)
- Still reducing emissions from the power sector from RGGI, from investments in energy efficiency and solar
- Transportation emissions increasing because of Vehicles Miles Traveled. To meet the target, we need to see 30% reductions in transportation emissions
- Saw a modest increase in building sector emissions probably due to weather colder winters and warmer summers. To address using fuel switching and investing in weatherization and efficiency methods

GC3 Legislative Update (details in GC3 Legislative update slides)

Highlighting bills that became law such as:

- Public Act 21-448/ AAC Establishing an Energy Efficient Retrofit Grant Program for Affordable Housing
- PA 21-39 An Act Increasing Representation on the Energy Conservation Management Board
- PA 21-53 AAC Energy Storage
- PA 21-43 AAC A Just Transition to Climate Protective Energy Production and Community Investment
- PA 21-53 AAC Solid Waste Management
- Special Act 21-9 AAC Recycled Content for Products Sold in Connecticut
- PA 21-159 AAC Equitable Access to Broadband

Voted out of Committee: No vote in either chamber

- AAC Food Waster Diversion and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities
- AAC Workforce Development

- AAC Transportation-related Carbon Emissions
- AAC Climate Change Mitigation and Home Energy Affordability
- AAC The Establishment of Energy Use of Building Standards for Voluntary Adoption
- AAC Emission Standards for Medium and Heavy-Duty Vehicles
- AAC the Solicitation of Biogas Injection Proposals from Anaerobic Digesters

Became Law:

- PA 21-115 / AAC Climate Change Adaptation
- PA 21-88 AAC Certain Soil Related Initiatives
- PA 21-55 AAC Enhancements to Certain Agricultural Programs
- PA 21-187 AAC Education and Training in Exertional Heat Illness for Coaches, Parents, Guardians and Students
House supported/ No Senate vote
- AAC Geographic Information Systems
Senate supported/ No vote in House
- AAC the State Treasurer and Climate Change Coastal Resiliency Reserve Funds
- AAC the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program

DEEP Federal Infrastructure Legislation Opportunities

- We have been working to track programs associated with the bipartisan infrastructure bill. When it has a senate vote it will be clearer what those programs look like. Some fund are formula grants and most are competitive. We have to be positioned effectively to compete.
- DOT Deputy Commissioner, Garrett Eucalitto explains several federal programs and grants that will help drive down emissions.
- Commissioner Dykes : Infrastructure bill would provide significant increase in federal funding for the clean water as well as an increase in funding for long island sound study.
- Resilience and Microgrid Program
- Electric School Bus Procurement

Opportunity for GC3 Member Report Out on Climate Actions

Department of Insurance: Convening the Connecticut Conference on Climate Change and Insurance on October 13th and 14th and Commissioner Mais is bringing together a national audience of climate, government, and insurance professionals to understand and explore how climate change affects our communities regulatory efforts and businesses. Which is in line with one of the GC3 recommendations to convene a conference on these topics. Additionally, DOI got eight additional states to join in to join in on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Climate Change report this year.

Department of Transportation:

- Pursuing solar installation at two of their major facilities. Doing analysis at all of the other facilities.
- Reducing water consumption at headquarter and other facilities
- First CT Transit electric busses arriving this month
- On track to have the first all electric bus facility in Waterbury

- Installing EV charging infrastructure for visitors at DOT headquarters as well as employee parking facility and regional district headquarters
- This year swapping out light duty fleet at Newington over to electric.

The Nature Conservancy:

- Active in Connecticut's 800 MW Park City wind project and most recently gave notice of intent to contribute a comment letter on the environmental impact statement to the bureau of ocean energy management. Fired staff member supporting outreach and engagement for offshore wind for the region
- Actively involved releasing press releases, op eds, and contacting legislators in support of TCI
- We are working on reforming the New England electricity systems
- Involved in proceeding towards meeting zero carbon goals
- Actively involved in STEPs process.
- Produced a study with Clark University on the significance of carbon emissions from deforestation

Operation Fuel

- Suspending traditional home system repair and replace program because we don't want to continue to replace dirty fuel systems with more dirty fuel systems.
- In the process of developing a better homes and building program which will help remediate any barriers to weatherization and install a heat pump
- Hosting panels on National Energy Efficiency Day on October 6th

DEMHS

- Actively engaged in hazard mitigation grant programs including the BRIC Program and the Flood Mitigation Assistance and Hazard Mitigation grant Program. Work with the Connecticut Interagency Hazard Mitigation Group and the Vulnerability Assessment Group

Aziz Dehkan, Roundtable on Climate and Jobs

- Passage of SB 999
- Working with Transportation Connecticut and looking for different opportunities and projects. Working with the trades as well

Claire Coleman, Office of Policy Management

- Supporting and planning a lot of the budgeting and legislative initiatives that were discussed both federally and at the state level.

Lori Mathieu, Department of Public Health

- The state of Connecticut is a BRACE (Building Resilience Against Climate Effects) funded grant awardee from the CDC. Partnering with Yale and Dr. Laura Bozzi, and UConn and CIRCA
- Continuing to apply next year for more opportunities to capture dollars to address the health effects of climate change

PURA, Joe Cooper

- Working on the 11 tracks of its equitable modern grid initiative. Some of those include a renewable electric storage program
- Harvard Business Journal's latest article on the equitable modern grid initiative.

DECD

- Stating a new grant called the Connecticut Communities Challenge and they are scoring resilience and environmental justice highly in the scoring criteria

- They have increased their priority placed on environmental resilience and environmental justice and their grant opportunities overall and for physical development and redevelopment projects.

Kevin Grigg, Fuss and O'Neil

- In October the board will pass the company's first meaningful sustainability policy which is based in part on United Nations a sustainable development goals and tying that into Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Trying to get the Connecticut Business Association on board with TCI.

Jim O'Donnell, CIRCA,

- Additional funding to cover counties outside of Fairfield and New Haven Counties
- And that there are four specific recommendations of our 2021 report that map to the goal and the those are number 50 which is advanced priority planning tasks related to the resilient infrastructure, 55 which is build governance structure Interagency coordination necessary to achieve efficient financing and funding, 56, which is to identify and generate revenue sources for resilience projects and 60 is support climate science for Connecticut.
- Helping towns implement stormwater authority and project planning and technical assistance for BRIC and similar funds.

Lee Cruz, Community Foundation

- Sharing reports with Yale

Michele Helou, Department of Housing

- Working on DEEP with SB 356 regarding energy efficiency retrofits
- Supporting TCI
- 2022-2023 QAP governs how low income housing tax credit will be allocated for projects with a tiered system prioritizing energy conservation, green building, renewables, and resiliency
- Standards to assess most vulnerable populations
- Working on redevelopment properties and urban renewable properties to have an effect on transportation usage

George Kral

- Infrastructure improvements

Commissioner Dykes, DEEP

- Launched Steps for Solar Siting Process
- Policy on Resilient Forests
- Open Space Grants Program for the state and including Equity criteria
- NOAA and CT establishing a National Estuarine Reserve
- Public Alert System for Air Quality Forecasts with DPH
- Adding new Energy Efficiency Boards Member
- We have signed an agreement for Environmental Justice mapping tool
- Urban Forestry Grants
- Equitable Energy Efficiency Proceeding

Presentation on 2021 GC3 Phase 2 Report Elements (Slides available online)

- Phase 2 Process

- Intention to continue update on mitigation and adaptation a year beyond dates described in EO3
- Internally tracking within state agencies and legislation
- Draft State Vulnerability Framework
- Working with State Agencies to report on alignment with reports and GC3 recommendations
- Public engagement process specifically targeting feedback from environmental justice communities

Public Comments

Mike Morrisey: Don Williams, who, many of you may know, wrote an important article in yesterday's Hartford Courant titled "Air quality in schools, more important than ever". We agree air quality for students is vitally important, not only in schools, but also for our kids get back and forth to school as well. Over six years ago, the propane industry began to assist schools in improving your quality for students in Connecticut when the cities of Shelton and Torrington that rid of their dirty diesel powered buses and replace them with clean propane powered ones. Since then propane powered buses have grown to over 700 in our state and nearby the city of Boston operates 450 propane buses with more on order. Nationwide propane powered buses are protecting over 1.3 million kids daily as they ride in more than 22,000 propane powered buses. Worldwide, there were over 27 million vehicles powered by propane powered school buses are a great example of how air quality can be improved in the transportation space by medium and heavy duty vehicles as a state, we have fallen behind and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions and these targets are now in jeopardy, of not being met. One way to get us on track to beat these targets is to adopt propane powered vehicles more aggressively as a preferred transportation fuel. Stanford based Tesley Waters now operates over 1000 vehicles nationwide and propane with plans to add 350 more shortly. And across our country there are over 6000 transit vehicles operating on propane suffice to say propane works on the big stuff and in a big environmental way as well. Propane vehicles are shovel ready now and do not required decades and trillions of dollars from uncommitted sources in infrastructure investments. In fact, propane already has an established infrastructure in place today to dramatically reduce emissions in the transportation space. Our governor recently said he is open to new ideas when it comes to getting us back on track to meet our emissions reduction targets well. Propane is not a new idea, but it is a source of energy that has severely been underutilized in our state and we asked our governor through you to change this and work with our industry to encourage the greater use of propane in the public and private sectors. Commissioner, you mentioned in your comments today, we need more tools, well propane is in your tool bag and we encourage you to put it to work now. We are all at war with climate change this battle is too big to be fought by one. And our increasing greenhouse gas emissions must be a wake up call that environmental soldiers like propane are ready now to join DEEP and the governor to win this environmental war today, thank you, that concludes my comments.

Leticia Colon: I'm the chair of efficiency for all of Connecticut and the chair for Eco Warriors also, the policy co-chair of the building performance association of the United States of

America and I've been called to Congress for comments on climate action 3 times in the last 3 months. That said, our meeting ended at 11 o'clock I did put a lot of information in the chat about the successful workforce development Program which just had 10 residents of Connecticut that were unemployed for over a year complete an educational program that provided them all the certifications required to work in the Energize Connecticut Program. They currently just began their actual workforce training, which is on the job six weeks of training here in our state of Connecticut and are serving the customers here to draw down the carbon emissions close the gaps, both literally and figuratively. they're also now taxpayers in state of Connecticut, which I find exciting. And since there's been lots of letters that have been written, most recently and lots of calls for action on the need for filling the jobs, so that we can tackle the goals that you guys have laid out I just want to bring attention to this group that maybe in the future, we could have a meeting where we talk about environmental justice issues or equity or workforce that could lift these communities of color that are disadvantaged and disengaged to the front of the conversation. There are links in the chat which will be provided that provide access to both federal Congressional testimony and local testimonies as well as the successful workforce model that is being run by the office of workforce strategy here in Connecticut. I hope you all have a blessed day and I look forward to providing detailed information on how we're engaging in environmental justice issues locally and federally as they relate to climate justice issues here, and at the national level have a blessed day.

Francis Pullaro: In response to the report that Commissioner Dykes mentioned that Connecticut is falling short. Meaning it's 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction requirements and my organization Renew Northeast urges both state officials and municipal leaders to use this opportunity to host a technical conference to explore deploying energy storage as a game changer for reducing emissions from in state fossil fuel generation. As the Commissioner discussed earlier, there is a new State law authorizing the department to deploy thousand megawatts of new storage within this decade, and all that remains is for the department to issue a solicitation for those resources. As my organization sees at large energy storage or now proven to be among the least cost new energy resources available to the state. And it can provide substantial reliability benefits and dense population centers with a relatively small footprint, which is again it's a game changer. Community, such as Bridgeport Hartford New Haven and Waterbury had for decades hosted New England's dirtiest fossil fuel power generating plans. crafting a solicitation for energy storage can displace these dirty peaking plants and that will meet an important principle of the Council, that no Community be left behind them that climate action plans must include. pollution reduction in these legacy communities so essentially deep can ease the burden on these communities, while maximizing the effectiveness of renewable power resources by crafting a proposal for procuring new energy storage and that again can replace these old peaking units, some of them are 40 years old, or more. And as DEEP draft integrated resources plan details Connecticut currently hosts 60% of the fossil fuel power plants needed to meet New England's peak demands and that's despite having only 24% of our electricity consumption, so I thank you for the opportunity to provide some comment and urge that significant battery storage be deployed in Connecticut and that will provide great cost reliability and environmental benefits to all of

us here in Connecticut, thank you.

Harry White: [See written public comment](#)

Meeting Adjourned

Chat Record

00:49:20 Jeffrey Beckham: GIS office passed in implementer

00:49:44 Rebecca French: Thank you Jeff!

00:54:55 Jeff Howard (CT DEEP): Clarifications on GHG emissions associated with buildings: (1) The 'residential' and 'commercial' categories in the GHG inventory represent emissions from combustion of fossil fuels in buildings. A chunk of 'industrial' emissions does so as well. (2) Emissions from use of air conditioning do not show up in these categories. They contribute to 'electricity' emissions via consumption of electricity.

00:55:38 Charles Rothenberger: Thanks, Jeff. An important clarification.

01:00:08 Michele Helou: thank you Jeff. Do we have data on buildings - all sources? Typically building loads would include other electricity uses - lighting, appliances, plug loads, ventilation. cooling of course, as well as heating in the case of air source heat pumps.

01:00:56 Leticia Colon: I see some great work here Thanks DEEP- and others that worked to lift those pieces of legislation. To be very honest- some of this information skews our view and our work towards transportation, which is important, but misses the equity lens that safe housing/ and buildings has become more critical than ever. With the heat index changes, and the increase in storms, safe human shelters have never been more important, not just homes, but schools, workplaces, must also upgrade to offer AC and air filter upgrades for example. Additionally, how can we engage communities which have no access to any climate change education, not in schools, communities, TV, radio, none. How can POC's who have been left behind, be meaningfully engaged with no access to responsible educational materials which would empower them to participate?

01:01:05 Jeff Howard (CT DEEP): Michele, we have not routinely done those calculations, but we'll consider doing so.

01:01:39 Craig Peters: Is the 50 million over 10 years for infrastructure in designated corridors only for EV chargers or all Alt Fuels?

01:02:44 Andrew Mais: Unfortunately I have to leave now, but be sure to register for the free virtual first Connecticut Conference on Climate Change and Insurance Oct. 13-14 https://portal.ct.gov/cidclimateconference/?language=en_US

01:03:35 Garrett Eucalitto: Craig, it is \$50 million over 5 years for alt fuel corridors, EV hydrogen propane and nat gas.

01:04:00 Todd Berman: Thanks for the great briefing, I need to drop off.

01:06:23 Amy McLean: thanks I have to get to another call, good legislative state and federal overview.

01:06:34 Leticia Colon: I am not sure if I am a GC3 member- but -Who in this room is representing the Equity lens on how we ensure that we (at the state level) truly engage the people who have been historically left behind. Those who are not here today, weren't here yesterday, and can't be here unless they are empowered and engaged? How much have we (the state of CT) set aside to ensure that occurs fairly? Who is working to protect the rights of the POC renters? Forgive my efforts to shed light on those large holes in this plan. The Equity lens. This then directly relates to workforce planning- which requires education as well. There are job opportunities which POC communities could connect to if they were engaged and supported/ empowered. <https://efficiencyforall.org/wordpress/efa-ct-workforce-program/>

01:07:45 Rebecca French: Register for the Climate insurance conference here:
https://portal.ct.gov/cidclimateconference/?language=en_US

01:08:58 Alex Rodriguez: So awesome!

01:08:59 Allen Kratz, Resilience Works, LLC: Could someone provide the list of states participating w/ Connecticut in the climate insurance initiative. Thanks.

01:09:13 Kip Kolesinskas: DOT should include review and update of stormwater management at all 60+ facilities as well

01:09:35 Rebecca French: we were able to get 8 additional states to join in on the NAIC Climate change report this year. MD, DC, PA, DE, RI, VT, MA & ME. The original states were NY, CT, WA, CA, MN and WI

01:10:21 Mark Mitchell: Where will the 12 CT Transit electric buses be deployed?

01:10:34 Harry White: Speaking of DOT, DOT destruction of the roadside forest in CT is contrary to climate science, rational engineering practice, and common sense, costs massive dollars, and destroys the rural aesthetic. They are creating hundreds of miles of invasive plant habitat, too. Nice that you are making a meadow while destroying hundreds of thousands of trees.

01:10:40 Allen Kratz, Resilience Works, LLC: Thanks, Rebecca. An important industry sector for our work.

01:11:59 Leticia Colon: Regarding climate action Learn about our national and local work here: <https://efficiencyforall.org/wordpress/efa-ct-workforce-program/> and here <https://efficiencyforall.org/wordpress/2021/06/25/leticia-colon-de-mejias-june-24-2021-better-buildings-us-doe-covid-recovery-economy-the-state-of-ee-and-supporting-information-on-the-path-to-an-inclusive-accessible-clean-energy-economy/>

01:12:23 Leticia Colon: and here <https://www.gewportal.org/>

01:12:59 Leticia Colon: And here September 30, 2021 Low-Carbon Small Business and Post-COVID Recovery- EESI Briefing Series: Workforce Wednesdays and <https://www.eesi.org/briefings/view/093020workforce>

01:14:44 Craig Peters: Where will the 12 E buses be deployed?

01:14:50 Leticia Colon: Community engagement locally and nationally can be located here <https://youtu.be/BOaMWYgWmX4> and here <https://www.gewportal.org/what-we-do/>

01:16:07 Leticia Colon: Links to our congressional work can located here Leticia Colon Congressional Testimony April 20, 2021
Leticia Colon Congressional testimony July 27, 2021 Have a blessed day.

01:16:36 lynne bonnett: Yeah, Brenda Operation Fuel!

01:17:11 Melissa Kops: Hear, hear! Thanks for your work, Brenda!

01:17:49 Leticia Colon: Operation Fuel - great job!

01:18:21 Brenda Watson: <https://operationfuel.org/eeday/>

01:18:44 Brenda Watson: Thank you Leticia and Melissa!

01:18:46 Mark Mitchell: Excellent Work, Brenda!

01:19:04 Brenda Watson: Thank you Lynn!

01:19:22 Wayne Cobleigh: Announcement today about buildings sector emissions in MA forming Clean Heat Commission
<https://www.wbur.org/news/2021/09/21/massachusetts-commission-on-clean-heatnet-zero-goal>

01:20:15 Brenda Watson: Thank you Dr. Mitchell
01:21:28 Ian Alexander: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEMHS/Press-Room/News-and-Announcements/2021/9-10-2021-DEMHS-Mitigation-Grants-BRIC-FMA>

Links to the 3 FEMA Mitigation grants administered by DEMHS

01:23:02 Rebecca French: ARPA = American Rescue Plan Act - funding from Congress to recover from COVID

01:25:21 Rebecca French: Big deal for DPH and State of Connecticut joining the CDC BRACE program Building Resilience Against Climate Effects.

<https://www.cdc.gov/climateandhealth/BRACE.htm>

01:25:30 Patricia Taylor: CDC BRACE website -

<https://www.cdc.gov/climateandhealth/BRACE.htm>

01:26:13 Leticia Colon: Lee- Equity Lens- I am not sure if you are seeing the chat- but I have placed links to the equity work we are accomplishing under these organizations- Efficiency For All, Green Eco Warriors Inc, the state of CT CWCSEO, State of CT Minority Initiative Board, State of CT Office of Workforce Strategies and our Congressional work, as well as the local Workforce development, and engagement of POC's statewide on climate action and healthy homes education.

01:27:39 Laura Bozzi: Big congrats to CT DPH on the BRACE grant! Connecticut was only 1 of 2 new programs nationwide to be funded.

01:28:37 Brenda Watson: I must jump off, thank you all for this amazing work.

01:32:27 Rebecca French: <https://www.hartfordbusiness.com/article/sweeping-power-grid-modernization-plan-hits-2-year-mark-with-small-business-interests-a-top>

01:33:13 Kimberly Stoner: CBA?

01:33:28 Peter Millman: Massachusetts is exploring the future of natural gas in its 20-80 DPU docket. Should the G3C recommend that Connecticut do the same?

01:35:32 Edith Pestana: that is great news!

01:36:58 Joanna Wozniak-Brown: We're excited to say that CIRCA is hiring an Environmental Justice Community Coordinator (Research Assistant 2).

<https://jobs.hr.uconn.edu/en-us/job/495563/environmental-justice-community-coordinator-research-assistant-2>

01:37:09 Daphne Dixon: Craig, the 12 EV Transit bus projects are in Stamford and New Haven. <https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/Publictrans/Bureau-of-Public-Transportation/Battery-Electric-Bus-Projects-and-Partners>

01:37:44 Leticia Colon: Green Eco Warriors is the only CT DAS certified minority run nonprofit. Some of our work can be located here. <https://www.gewportal.org/magazine/> We hope one day to be invited to participate as more than viewers- we would love to be "doers".

01:37:58 Claire Coleman: Lots of exciting job opportunities below supporting budgeting and policy for climate, environment, transportation, GIS/broadband, including federal funds management. Links below, please help spread the word:

01:38:27 Claire Coleman: Fiscal and Program Policy Section Director here. This is an exciting opportunity to help oversee and manage the allocation, distribution, and reporting tasks related to over \$4.2 billion of federal pandemic aid awarded to the Office of Policy and Management.

Fiscal and Program Policy Section Director here. In this position, you will lead the section charged with responsibility for programs and policies relating to transportation, corrections and criminal justice, the environment, and the operations of the State's constitutional officers and the Legislative and Judicial branches of government.

01:38:36 Claire Coleman: two (2) Leadership Associate (target class budget analyst) positions. here. his is an exciting opportunity to be part of a new unit overseeing and managing the allocation, distribution, and reporting tasks related to over \$4.2 billion of federal pandemic aid awarded to the Office of Policy and Management.

Broadband Mapping Coordinator (Associate Research Analyst) position. This recruitment is open to the public. The job posting can be found on the State of Connecticut Executive Branch Online Employment Center (OEC) and by clicking here.

01:39:06 Christine Hahn: Background on CDC SVI:
<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html>

01:39:24 Anne Hulick: Have to hop off to another meeting but thanks to all for your great work.

01:39:54 Wayne Cobleigh: Stormwater utility fees would be a sustainable source of matching funds for municipalities for flood mitigation and combined sewer overflow projects available from grants in the federal infrastructure bill

01:42:02 Melissa Kops: Yes, Michele! Buildings are the largest emitter.
<https://ctgbc.org/Impact>

01:42:13 Leticia Colon: Thank you Michelle - Additionally CT is experiencing flooding Now- that is harming low lying rental and IE properties.

01:44:45 Allen Kratz, Resilience Works, LLC: Wayne, yes: stormwater utility fees and, a real estate transfer fee that can be re-proposed to the Legislature.

01:46:30 Rebecca French: hi Folks. I know there are many GC3 working group members in the meeting today. Although for time constraints we are limiting updates to the 23 GC3 Members, please share information and programs and opportunities in the chat. They will be captured in the minutes.

01:48:44 Patricia Taylor: Federal strategy to combat extreme heat includes new initiatives at OSHA and funding for efforts to reduce heat-related illness and death. White House Fact Sheet yesterday at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/09/20/fact-sheet-biden-administration-mobilizes-to-protect-workers-and-communities-from-extreme-heat/>

01:49:16 lynne bonnett: yahoo mapping tool!

01:49:39 Harry White: Zero focus on proforestation, the protection of standing forests - the ONLY existing mechanism of sufficient scale to counter climate change. DEEP continues to ignore peer-reviewed science to continue destroying standing forests. This should be the #1 concern of GC3 as without this mechanism, all else is futile.

01:50:19 Wayne Cobleigh: The Reinvesting in Shoreline Economies and Ecosystems (RISEE) Act (federal) could play a pivotal role in directing how the U.S. funds coastal resilience by ensuring federal leasing revenue from offshore energy production is used to build coastal resilience in the states and communities closest to that energy production and setting up the National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund as a "sister-fund"

to the more inland-focused, Land and Water Conservation Fund. Hopefully it gets passed in the federal budget reconciliation process.

01:50:48 Frogard Ryan: The Nature Conservancy is hiring as well:

01:51:16 Kristin Barendregt-Ludwig: The Yale Center for Environmental Justice is hosting the 2021 Global Environmental Justice Conference on Friday, Oct. 29th, co-hosted by the Yale Center for Climate Change and Health and the Yale Sustainable Food Program. Panels focus on just transition: clean energy/housing, theories of change, and food systems. <https://ycej.yale.edu/conference-2021>

01:51:19 Allen Kratz, Resilience Works, LLC: Is there a link to the RFP for EJ urban forestry?

01:51:29 Michele Helou: Agreed Melissa! Leticia - state funded projects through DOH have a higher threshold for resiliency - we must meet state statues that require critical activities such as housing to be built above the 500 year flood elevation with dry egress. (market rate housing must be above the 100 year flood elevation). For reuse of existing buildings in the flood plain (old mills, for example), we must secure a Flood Management Certification from DEEP for resiliency and safety.

01:51:58 Eric Hammerling, CFPA:

<https://cturbanforestcouncil.org/grants/climate-change-grants/>

01:52:08 Leticia Colon: I am not sure how you are taking names for public comment- or how many people are still here to hear them, but I would like to make a comment. my name is Leticia

01:52:12 Kip Kolesinskas: The Working Lands Alliance is coordinating with partners and Dept of Ag to develop a potential soil health and resiliency program to capture additional expected USDA funding

01:53:09 Natasha Dolmon: Where will the recording, notes, and or/chat be located after the meeting? Is there a specific location for public records?

01:53:15 Frogard Ryan: 1.)DEIJ Director position for the Northeast; 2.) HR, Ops and Diversity manger here in CT and 3.) a Southeast CT Project Manager. Text or e-mail me if interested for links. All jobs are posted on nature.org and LinkedIn as well. Please spread the word.

02:00:29 aaron goode: unfortunately the focus group held in New Haven was not at a convenient location for most low-income residents

02:00:42 Maisa Tisdale: Is there a report or transcript from the Bridgeport focus group?

02:02:11 Mark Mitchell: When will the focus group report be available?

02:03:59 Craig Peters: In the transportation sector we saw an increase of 3% not a reduction of 10%. Is it time to support all the U.S. Department of Energy's alternative fuels such as hydrogen, propane , natural gas and bio fuels?

02:04:09 Rebecca French: @ Dr. Mitchell Yale was making formatting revisions, but we can post high level findings

02:04:25 Mark Mitchell: I have been working on guidelines for local governments for identifying and including the most at-risk communities in their local climate risk assessments.

02:05:19 Jeff Howard (CT DEEP): EIA data on GHG emissions ratio for propane vs. diesel and gasoline: https://www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/co2_vol_mass.php

02:05:40 Aziz Dehkan: TY everyone for the all work you do!

02:05:52 Mark Mitchell: Propane is a fossil fuel and will not help us meet zero carbon goals.

02:06:07 Leticia Colon: I have been here Waiting Leticia - Woman of color - State Commissioner- Climate Action leader- local employer- nationally awarded Equity/ Energy/ and Climate speaker -Nationally awarded building scientist- lifter of healthy homes efforts here in CT and Nationally- Still waiting meeting ends in 1 minute. Maybe next time we can place equity at the front end- I have another meeting - be well

02:09:16 Maisa Tisdale: I have to leave. I look forward to reviewing the comments at a later time.

02:09:43 Jeff Howard (CT DEEP): Propane Kg CO2/million BTUs = 62.9; comparable figures are 74.1 for diesel and 70.7 for gasoline. Also need to compare propane with EVs.

02:10:58 Jeff Howard (CT DEEP): EVs are far more efficient than combustion engines, and a significant % of electricity from northeast grid is from zero-carbon sources.

02:12:29 Peter Millman: Thank you Jeff for putting the supposed value of propane powered vehicles into perspective.

02:13:34 Mark Mitchell: I have also updated our stationary point source air pollution and communities of color map for CT.

02:14:07 Allen Kratz, Resilience Works, LLC: Excellent briefing. Thanks, everyone, for your work!

02:14:19 Kristin Barendregt-Ludwig: Thanks everyone! Andrew Steer's appointment as CEO in March 2021 comes as Bezos is slated to step down as CEO of Amazon later this year, turning the helm over to AWS CEO Andy Jassy. Bezos is expected to turn more of his attention to projects like the Earth Fund.

01:19:31 Alex Rodriguez: Woohoo! An in-person event! :)

01:19:45 Wayne Cobleigh: yes

01:20:00 Lee Cruz: Desiree,

01:20:08 Stephanye Clarke: Is there a date/time yet? How will that information get to community members here in NL?

01:21:55 Desiree Miller: The solar PPA equipment has a 20 year life. At end of 20 year term, Green Bank will remove the system

01:23:32 Mary Pelletier: will the funding for planning be allocated to municipalities or will there be a stipulation that progressive non-profits lead the process?

01:24:08 lynne bonnett: oh great news Edith, thank you.

01:24:30 Patricia Taylor - EHHI: Fantastic news on the EJ Screening Tool Map, Edith!

01:24:36 Lee Cruz: Have you looked into sharing information about the solar panel program via Community Foundations. Community Foundations fund a good number of the 501(c)3 nonprofits in CT and hence have contact info. Contact me at lcruz@cfgnh.org if you would like to discuss this.

01:25:28 Mary Pelletier: congratulations ! for finding funding for E.J. mapping tool

01:26:34 Rebecca French: @stephanye Clarke. No date/time yet. We look forward to working with you to get the agenda, date and time set.

01:26:55 Rebecca French: ...and getting the word out.

01:27:23 Mark Mitchell: Propane is a fossil fuel and will contribute to global warming. We need to move to electric buses.

01:27:28 Stephanye Clarke: ok. I need to sign off for another meeting -- looking forward to the update.

01:28:14 Shubhada Kampli: The federal government has plans to update EJScreen with the Climate and Environmental Justice Tool to inform equitable decisionmaking around its Justice40 Initiative. It sounds like the state's efforts will be complementary to - and hopefully integrated with - that.

01:28:17 Alex Rodriguez: @Mike Morrissey In CT we have also introduced the first electric transit bus in Bridgeport and the first electric school bus in Middletown.

01:28:31 Denise Savageau: Urban soil health program June 18 - hosted by Soil and Water Conservation Society -Southern New England Chapter
<https://swcssnec.org/2021-summer/>

01:29:01 Katie Lund: Can you indicate in the chat what the New London meeting date is? Sorry I missed that date in the public meeting update.

01:29:08 Alex Rodriguez: CT DOT is seeking funding from US DOT for funding to replace 10 diesel buses with 10 electric transit buses.

01:29:34 Alanis Allen: @Katie Lund no meeting date yet, but will keep everyone updated

01:29:45 Rebecca French: @mary pelletier the statute passed in the special session in 2020 expands the applicants for the microgrid and resilience grant and loan pilot program to allow academic and non-profits to apply.

01:31:57 Anthony Cherolis: Has the proposed bill that would require an equity study of the CT CHEAPR EV Rebate Program been discussed? That proposed bill would also define a much more affordable e-bike as a 'battery electric vehicle' that could then be considered for a low-to-moderate income pilot incentive program.
https://cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=HB06485&which_year=2021

01:33:42 Edith Pestana: There will be a press release regarding the Mapping Tool hopefully this summer- Stay Tuned! No surprise that the White House is putting resources in the EJ Screen- there are many members of EJ organizations that now work for the Biden Administration.

01:36:52 Anthony Cherolis: Relative to the state's air pollution (important for disproportionate health impacts) reduction and ghg reduction goals, I'd like to understand better why CT DEEP felt that it was important that the overview bullet item relative to 'vehicle miles traveled (VMT)' is worded such that the state is allowing for increasing, polluting low occupancy VMT to increase year after year until 2030. The transportation working group, including myself from an equity and public health perspective recommended a goal for reducing VMT by 5% by 2030. The wording pushed by CT DEEP was "Eliminate growth in Vehicle Miles Traveled by 2030." That is a very different goal than a 5% decrease by 2030, and would encourage CT DOT to continue expanding interstates and funding projects for another 9 years that encourage more driving and sprawl.

01:38:46 Mark Mitchell: Do foundations offer EJ grants?

01:39:23 Alex Rodriguez: Thanks everyone!