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

Meeting Date: January 15, 2016
Meeting Time: 1:00 p.m. —3:00 p.m.
Meeting Location:
Connecticut Green Bank
845 Brook St, Rocky Hill, CT

ATTENDENCE

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

AGENDA & NOTES

Welcome and review of meeting agenda

Associated Staff	Title	Organization	Present
Keri Enright-Kato	Director	DEEP Office of Climate Change, Technology & Research	Y
Jeff Howard	Environmental Analyst	DEEP Office of Climate Change, Technology & Research	Y
Tracy Babbidge	Bureau Chief	DEEP BETP	Y
Ben McMillan	Staff	DEEP	Y
Matt Macunas	Legislative Liaison & Marketing Manager	CT Green Bank	Y

Welcome and Review of the Agenda
Bryan Garcia, LAE Working Group Co-Chair
- Introductory remarks and review of the meeting agenda

Review and discussion on the LAE Exploratory Report recommendations
Bryan Garcia, LAE Working Group Co-Chair
- Focus for today is to obtain feedback on the draft recommendations for the working group Exploratory Report and the 1/22/16 GC3 meeting in which the LAE working group will report recommendations to the full Council.

Draft Recommendations:
- Competition and Recognition
  - o The lead is not just limited to state agencies- DEEP would welcome other organizations to take the lead on many of the recommendations listed.

1. Investigate revitalizing the former Climate Change Leadership Awards.
   o Recognition from the GC3 is broader than recognition from just DEEP because of the GC3 membership.
   o A category for schools and universities should be included as well. The Green Leaf Program is a great example that could be elevated more.

2. Sharing success stories of municipalities, businesses, and non-profits.
   o An academic institution or center could potentially take this on.

3. Collaborate with CT industry associations to develop reporting and recognition programs.
   o The Hartford is interested in facilitating best practices among businesses.
   o The Sustainable Business Council could be the lead when collaborating with Connecticut industries.
   o There may be a number of leads on this topic and one of our strategies could be to organize and prioritize them
   o The Clean Cities Coalition could maybe be interested in supporting this.
   o Certain groups will probably want to participate but they may not want to lead

4. Support and promote work based challenges.
   o The Hartford is interested in working with other businesses.
   o CTRides could also be a partner to address commuting.

- Resources and Training
  1. Strengthen research opportunities with CT colleges and universities.
     o The CT Alliance for Sustainability can be the vehicle for moving this recommendation forward.

  2. Promote climate-related learning and training opportunities.
     o Clean Water Action has a list-serve that can be utilized for promoting opportunities.
     o Create a place where people can share what they are doing and share resources.

  3. Develop climate change mitigation and adaptation toolkits for different sectors.
     o CT RiverCOG has an adaptation tool.
     o ISE and the Alliance for Higher Education have tools and resources.
     o Student at Yale FES may be available and interested in developing a municipal toolkit (Shannon Laun will connect)

  4. Continue the Exploring Climate Solutions webinar series
     o We would like expand our outreach efforts to increase attendance
     o Moving forward we will do a maximum of 2 webinars per month
     o We should explore co-sponsorships of webinars which allows access to larger lists
     o We may want to create an iTunes channel for CT, it will likely increased viewership.
     o Identify people at companies who may be able to disseminate information about webinars in a way that makes sense

  5. Identify opportunities for financial support for climate action.

- Goal Setting, Measurement, and Evaluation
  1. Call on CT state agencies, municipalities, companies and institutions of higher education to set formal GHG reduction goals and publically report progress.

  2. Highlight prominent examples of goal setting, reporting and transparency.

3. Develop case studies and opportunities to share best practices.

4. Develop and disseminate guidelines for goal setting, assessment, and reporting.
   o DEEP is the logical lead for goals setting, measurement, and evaluation of state agencies.
   o Can be difficult to understand the amount of consumption within state agencies but to manage it you need to be able to measure it.
   o Higher education institutions and municipalities can take the leads for their individual sectors.
   o The DEEP website can promote CDP submissions by CT companies.
   o What about the state legislature- GHG impact to each piece of legislation- could raise the consciousness about climate action- this could also be applied to state investments in conservation policies?
   o There are many established guidelines that we can draw from rather than creating new ones.

- Cross Sector Partnerships
  o Some of these recommendations should be integrated into the competition and recognition category

1. Support expansion of goNewHavengo model.
   o CT rides should be included in this effort.
   o Should this be broader than the goNewHavengo model?

2. Facilitate and support cross sector dialogue and collective action.
   o The CT Roundtable on Climate and Jobs already does this. Additional support and recognition from the GC3 on the value of these efforts would be good.
   o Explore the possibility of having a conference to initiate an ongoing dialogue between sectors.

3. Encourage development of multi-sector initiatives.
   o CT RiverCOG interested in exploring.
   o Another cross sector initiative could be to have the schools connect with DOT and Fastrak.

- Bottom Up Top Down Approaches
  o These recommendations should be integrated into other categories

1. Work with businesses and organizations to develop resources and tools for bottom up/top-down approaches.

2. Share stories on success and challenges of bottom-up/top-down approaches.

3. Recognition of bottom-up/top-down approaches in climate leadership award programs.

- Lead by Example
1. Expand state lead by example program to include transportation and fleet management.
   o This recommendation needs additional follow up with DAS.

2. Explore and identify opportunities for cross-sector lead by example initiatives.

3. Recognize and promote others who are leading by example.
   o These two recommendations can be combined into other categories.

- Communication and Stakeholder Engagement
  1. Develop creative ways to share success stories.
     o It is important that we also share challenges that we face rather than just success stories.
  2. Provide stakeholders with opportunities for training on effective and tailored climate messaging.
     o Connect with Yale Project on Climate Change Communication.
     o Need to investigate other CT academic institutions are doing on this topic.
  3. Further investigate the Portland, OR Equity Work Group efforts.
     o Equity Working Group model needs to be a priority for 2016- John H. will take the lead
  4. Ensure clear and accessible two-way communication channels.
  5. Develop partnerships with stakeholder groups to facilitate discussion and dialogue among CT stakeholders.

Stakeholder Engagement Strategy Discussion
Scott Jackson, LAE Working Group Co-Chair
- Review short-term timeline for stakeholder engagement January 2016 – November 2016.
- Strategies include webinars, in person meetings, and a workshop.
- Information and education on how the modeling and analysis by NESCAUM will be a focus in the first part of 2016.
- The GC3 will begin to solicit feedback on missing GHG reduction strategies in the summer and fall of 2016.
- Review long-term stakeholder engagement strategy beyond 2016
- For the long-term strategy we propose exploring the idea of creating a CT Climate Change Stakeholder Group.
- The Group could be made up of individuals from organizations that adequately represent the 9 sectors indicated in this graphic. A facilitator would manage the meetings, set the agenda, and coordinate work group outcomes.
- It would report, at a minimum, annually to GC3 members and facilitate communication bi-directionally on:
  o state strategies for reducing GHG emissions;
  o voluntary efforts that lead to emission reductions; and
  o general stakeholder input, ideas, and concerns.
- Throughout the stakeholder engagement process we will need to continue to determine: Who's missing? What is missing? What is valuable? How do we approach people who are not engaged? Who are their trusted peers? How do reach out to those that are not engaged?

Questions & Comments:
- How are we opening up the dialogue and making it accessible to stakeholders geographically located across the state? - What if we looked at simulcast or video conferencing model. We could have GC3 members go out to satellite locations after a presentation and field questions and facilitate a dialogue.
- The COGS are here to help facilitate this- the universities are also able to help facilitate the simulcast and engagement. DEEP does not have the staff to coordinate and set up a simulcast alone.

- People who are engaged early are more likely to be engaged later. A year from now we want thousands of people engaged.
- In the early part of the year we just need to make sure that the discussion is focused on the analytics of what went into the model. We won't be ready to talk about solutions.
- Will the Exploratory Report include recommendations on a stakeholder engagement plan?
    o The information on slides 15-19 will be will incorporated into the report.
- Can we further explore the satellite meetings and the simulcast idea?
    o General discussion on logistics and format for a potential simulcast
- When will we get to see a draft of the ADM working group?
    o DEEP will send out the combined report for everyone to review and provide feedback.
    o The Exploratory Report in general is meant to be a progress report of the GC3 and it's working groups.

New items
- Remember to tune into the Multisoving webinar.

Public comments

Phillip Dooley, Public Stakeholder
I would like to encourage methane leaks to be included in the GHG measurements and inventory. Natural gas expansion is a big mistake and can contribute 4x the greenhouse gas emissions than that of a coal plant. This can still be stopped and should be done quickly. We have data about leaks where fracking is used and water is being polluted. We need windmills on the hilltops in the state forests which can be done at a low cost. The federal government did not include wind amplification of hilltops in their maps and so it does not look as good as it is.

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