



MONTANA CLIMATE SOLUTIONS COUNCIL

GHG MITIGATION COMMITTEE

MEETING INFORMATION

November 11, 2019, 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM
Room 111, Metcalf Building, Helena and by conference call

ATTENDEES

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Jennifer Anders, Northwest Power & Conservation Council
Kathy Hadley
Ryan Hall (attending on behalf of Council Member Gary Wiens), Montana Electric Cooperatives Association
David Hoffman, NorthWestern Energy
Chuck Magraw, Natural Resources Defense Council
Dir. Shaun McGrath, Dept. of Environmental Quality
Alan Olson, Montana Petroleum Association
Caitlin Piserchia
Tracy Stone-Manning, National Wildlife Federation
Andrew Valainis, Montana Renewable Energy Association
Laura Wood-Peterson, Indigo Agriculture

STAFF:

Bill Baumgardner, Dept. of Administration
Chelsi Bay, Dept. of Agriculture
Lauren Berka, Dept. of Administration
Jeff Blend, Dept. of Environmental Quality
Ben Brouwer, Dept. of Environmental Quality
Patrick Cummins, Center for a New Energy Economy
Brian Dekiep, Northwest Power & Conservation Council
Tom Kaiserski, Dept. of Commerce
Dave Klemp, Dept. of Environmental Quality
Bonnie Rouse, Dept. of Environmental Quality
Pat Wise, Dept. of Transportation

PUBLIC:

Tivan Bovington, Sacajawea Energy
Dave Galt, consultant to Montana Petroleum Association
Jan Thomson-Rouse, NorthWestern Energy
Peggy Trenk, Treasure State Resources Association

THEMES

- Each Committee sub-group provided summaries of their draft recommendations. Other council members were given opportunities to provide input and feedback.
- Discussion about energy efficiency options and applicability of various draft recommendations to co-ops and investor owned utilities.
- Some Council members expressed concern about compressed nature of process, inability to conduct adequate cost benefit analysis, and lack of representation from Public Service Commission, Legislature, and other stakeholders. Concerns noted by Dir. McGrath.
- Some Council members expressed concern over recommendation for moratorium on new fossil fuel infrastructure development. Concerns noted by Dir. McGrath.
- Discussion about potential strategies to reduce vehicle miles travelled as options for transportation sector recommendations, including transit, bike/walk infrastructure, land use and growth planning, and incentives for commuting alternatives.
- Data for industrial sector and oil and gas production sector emissions is limited, and past legislative efforts to require GHG emissions reporting have failed. Discussion about potential for improved data to clarify the severity of emissions from these sectors and to mitigate federal regulation impacts.
- Council members interested in learning about status of past energy conservation/climate initiatives relative to state agency operations and status of sequestration research.
- Local/tribal government sub-group of GHG Committee (Caitlin, Andrew) is coordinating with Adaptation Committee members.
- Energy Efficiency sub-group will incorporate Residential & Commercial recommendations related to economy-wide goal, including potential for beneficial electrification of heating loads.
- Public Comment: Tivan Bovington, Sacajawea Energy, provided public comment emphasizing net economic benefit of GHG emissions mitigation and renewable energy development.
- Next Meetings:
 - Conference call of GHG Committee to discuss updated draft recommendations, December 6, 9-11 AM.
 - In-person meeting of full Climate Solutions Council, Helena, December 9 and 10.

ACTION ITEMS

ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBLE POINT OF CONTACT	DUE DATE
Submit cleaned-up recommendation drafts to Dir. McGrath based on feedback of other Council members and additional research.	All sub-group coordinators and recommendation authors	December 3
Send details re: ExxonMobil’s development of fuel cell energy system to Dir. McGrath	Alan Olson	November 18
Share recommendations regarding potential industrial emission reduction options at mines with Alan Olson	Shaun McGrath	November 18

Provide summary of CCUS activities in Montana to Dir. McGrath	Tom Kaiserski	November 21
Provide vehicle electrification load growth projection data, if available, to Brian Dekiep	Ben Brouwer, Kyla Maki	November 21
Share MDT stats and planning re: transit with transportation subgroup	Pat Wise	November 21
Incorporate MECA comments on energy efficiency recommendations	Chuck Magraw, Ryan Hall	December 3
Further identify areas of concern, work for consensus on recommendations	Andrew Valainis	December 3
Coordinate with Innovation & Transition Committee re: CCUS recommendations	Shaun McGrath, Tom Kaiserski	December 3
Connect Lauren Berka w/State Buildings Energy Conservation Program (DEQ)	Ben Brouwer	DONE
Connect CETI staff w/Brian Dekiep & Ben Brouwer re: modelling/inventory inputs	Shaun McGrath	DONE