



Connecticut Climate Change

Governor's Steering Committee on Climate Change

MEETING MINUTES

January 10, 2006

GSC Attendees: Commissioner McCarthy, Undersecretary Mengacci, Commissioner Yelmini, Commissioner George, Chairman Bowles, Ned Hurlle (for Commissioner Korta).

Other attendees from Climate Change Coordinating Committee (C4) and other agencies, guests.

Handouts:

- Agenda
- November 2005 meeting minutes
- High performance building info

1. **Public Comments** – There were no comments from the public.
2. **Approval of minutes from November 2005 GSC meeting** – The minutes were approved.
3. **Plan for Submission of Annual Progress Report to Legislature** – The GSC thanked C4 for their work in putting together the report, especially Connie Mendolia. GSC members signed the cover letter. The report will be submitted to the legislature at the beginning of the session.
4. **Implementing Governor's energy efficiency directive** – Mary Healey, Consumer Counsel, discussed the background and strategy for improving efficiency at state agencies, including the use of the most beneficial rate analyses and an energy score card.
5. **2006 Legislative Proposals** –
 - DEP reported on progress of the feebate report and diesel plan.
 - DPUC reported on: decoupling of revenue and sales of electricity and gas companies, which is tied to reducing disincentives for conservation; Class III RPS; and the possibility of revisiting the establishment of oil and natural gas conservation funds.
 - CCEF reported on high performance buildings and proposed: (1) setting up a response sub-committee of the C4 that would include members from the DEP, DPW, and CCEF, and (2) involving the GSC where necessary to support and weigh in on legislation. GSC was supportive of the proposals.

6. **Measurement and Verification** – C4 reported that DEP inventory of GHG will occur through reports from major air pollution stationery sources (bottom up) and the update to the statewide GHG inventory with EPA (top down). Additional strategies are needed. C4 proposed a C4 summit in 2006 to develop a measurement and verification plan. GSC charged C4 to follow up on this.
7. **Next Steps for GSC Agencies** – Reports were given from the following agencies:
 - DOT – presented a thorough plan to reduce energy use throughout DOT facilities and operations (energy management systems, efficiency in garages, computers, lighting, environmental purchasing, etc.)
 - DEP – ongoing efforts to reduce waste, additional energy efficiency measures, increase staff use of hybrid fleet vehicles, ongoing clean energy purchase
 - DSS – hosted energy efficient lighting sale
 - CCEF – plan to inventory computer energy use, look into clean energy purchase
 - DAS reported that they were not sure if or how they would be able to fill the Environmental Purchasing position since Barb Moser left DAS.
8. **CT Climate Change Action Plan Implementation** – C4 presented implementation highlights:
 - signing of RGGI agreement by 7 northeastern states including CT;
 - approval of regulations on GHG reductions from vehicles (“Pavley”);
 - draft of stakeholder report on high performance buildings;
 - planning to continue educational workshops with the insurance and financial services sector.
 - DAS discussed the state’s telecommuting policy: it is allowed in most state agencies on a limited basis (but not to managers), the policy was updated in the last 6 months, there are many issues that make it difficult to allow telecommuting.
9. **Other Business**
 - OPM discussed the state employee conservation campaign. OPM is waiting to hear from the Governor’s office and hopes to kick off the campaign in January 2006.
 - GSC discussed the need to coordinate incremental policies and decisions among the agencies for long-term broader implications.
10. **Next Meeting** – April 4, 2006. GSC meeting times and minutes will be posted on www.ctclimatechange.com