

# Science and Data Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council

## 2:00 PM January 19, 2022

### Meeting Notes

Location: Agency of Natural Resources, One National Life Drive, Montpelier, VT 05602  
in National Life Catamount Room; meeting was recorded and posted online [here](#).

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S&D Subcommittee Members Present: TJ Poor, Jared Duval, Julie Moore, Richard Hopkins, Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux, Lou Cecere.

State Agency Staff Present: Jane Lazorchak, ANR; Marian Wolz, ANR; Claire McIlvennie, PSD; Megan O'Toole, VT DEC; Collin Smythe, VT DEC; Brian Woods, VT DEC

#### **2:00 Welcome/ Approval of minutes (S&D Co-Chair(s))**

TJ Poor opened the meeting by reviewing the minutes from the last meeting. One correction to the minutes was made, a spelling error, and they were accepted by the sub-committee with that change.

#### **2:10 Review of Draft RFI for Life-cycle analysis – Megan O'Toole, Vermont DEC**

Megan reviewed the process of developing the RFI to date, the initial draft was completed by Jeff Merrell and the DEC team reviewed. That draft was sent to the GHG Inventory task group and review and comments from that group have been incorporated into the draft presented to the sub-committee today. Megan then walked through the content of the draft with the sub-committee. Comments and questions were discussed and addressed by members of the task group and DEC staff. Next steps: Megan and the DEC team will incorporate edits based on the sub-committee discussion, and RFI will be finalized by the task group by the end of next week. RFI will then be posted by Jane.

#### **2:50 Public Comment on the RFI – Co-chairs, All**

Stephen Crowley – Points out the importance of the statutory context (10 VSA 578 and 582). Question about 20 vs. 100 year GWP for emissions and whether or not that should be mentioned in the RFI.

George Gross – Metric for measuring CO<sub>2</sub>e, points to AR6 discussion and conflation of CH<sub>4</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> GWP. Inquiry about providing written comments to the RFI. Jared welcomed George to submit comments directly to him to share with the task group.

#### **3:00 – Monitoring and Assessment Scope of Work update – Jane Lazorchak, ANR**

Jane provided an update on the status of the draft of the Scope of Work for the Measuring Progress tool. Conversations are ongoing within the smaller group working with the contractors and UVM. Subcommittee agreed to let the task group continue to work through related conversations and issues on behalf of the subcommittee.

#### **3:15 – Subcommittee composition**

TJ announced that he will need to step down from serving as co-chair of the subcommittee, and will be joining the Cross-sector sub-committee in his new role at PSD. With Lou also stepping down from a subcommittee member, TJ proposed that Claire step forward as the official member from PSD. Jared and Lesley-Ann thanked TJ for his service as co-chair. TJ made a motion to appoint Claire to the subcommittee, and Lou seconded the motion. There was no objection from the subcommittee members. The Steering Committee will review these changes, and Jane doesn't expect any issues with approval.

In terms of a new co-chair, because Jared is serving as a council member appointed by the legislature, the other co-chair should be a member of the administration or their designee.

TJ reviewed the work items that the committee has been charged with, including reviewing responses to the RFI, monitoring and assessment work, and the LEAP modeling. Jared added the topic of biomass emissions to the list of items. Jane and Lesley-Ann mentioned items related to the municipal vulnerability index.

TJ then discussed the process of making nominations for new members and proposed that nominations be made in the next week or two and have a small group review those nominations. Jared added that new members should be considered during the next subcommittee meeting. There was further discussion of which members would want to work on specific tasks going forward.

**4:00 Adjourn**

DRAFT