

Science and Data Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council

September 29, 2021 – Agenda

2pm-4pm

Physical Location: Agency of Natural Resources, One National Life Drive, Montpelier, VT 05602
in Catamount NL D215

Join Virtual Zoom Meeting – Meeting will be recorded and posted online:

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- 2:00 Welcome/ Agenda Overview (*S&D Co-Chair(s)*)
- Approval of [Sept 17 Minutes](#)
 - Approval of [Sept 22 Minutes](#)
- 2:05 Proportional Reductions in Emissions – Statutory Clarity (*See below for more detail, Subcommittee Discussion*)
Reference document: [Sectoral Relative Contribution Workbook 2018, 2005, and 1990 reference years](#)
- 2:50 Update from Carbon Budget Task Group (*Jared Duval*)
- 3:05 Update on Presentation of Technical Feasibility and Cost-Effectiveness Definitions to Climate Council (*TJ Poor – holding 40 minutes if necessary*)
- 3:45 Misc. Items/Next Steps
- 3:50 Public Comment
- 4:00 Adjourn

Proportional Reductions in Emissions – Summary of Issue for Discussion

There has been confusion regarding the GWSA guidance in 10 V.S.A § 592 (d) (2) which calls for the Climate Action Plan to "provide for greenhouse gas emissions reductions that reflect the relative contribution of each source or category of source of emissions," and how to apply given that 10 V.S.A. 592 section d(1) which requires that in proposing pathways, strategies, and actions the Climate Action Plan further the objective to "prioritize the most cost-effective,

technologically feasible, and equitable greenhouse gas emissions reduction pathways and adaptation and preparedness strategies . . .”

What should the reference year be for proportional reductions? The baseline year against which we measure our out-year emissions reduction requirements (2005 for 2025 requirements; 1990 for 2030 and 2050 requirements) is clearly laid out in statute. However, the reference year that we use to assess this "relative contribution" question is not laid out in statute.

Should (d)(1) have primary consideration in prioritization of actions?

For reference, see

Share of Statewide Emissions by Sector and Year

	1990	2005	2018
Transportation	38%	41%	40%
Thermal (RCI)	29%	30%	34%
Electricity	13%	6%	2%
Agriculture	14%	13%	16%
Industrial Processes	2%	6%	6%
Waste Management	3%	3%	2%