Cross-Sector Mitigation Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council 12:00 PM September 29, 2022 Minutes

Location: Meeting was recorded via Zoom and posted online

Subcommittee Members Present: TJ Poor, Bram Kleppner, Johanna Miller, Kelly Klein, Rich

Cowart, Stella Fox, Megan O'Toole, Andrew Wright,

Adam Sherman

State Agency Staff Present: Marian Wolz, Jane Lazorchak, Brian Woods

Minutes by: Johanna Miller

12:00 PM Welcome/Agenda Review

12:07 Minutes Approval

12:13 Presentation on the Draft Marginal Abatement Cost Curve Memo Discussion and Presentation, David Hill (Energy Futures Group) and Tyler Binnington (Stockholm Environment Institute)

- Analysis built upon LEAP modeling and Pathways Report.
- Ongoing need for research to meet GWSA requirements
- Other further policy, regulatory support needed.
- Inflation Reduction Act will help meet requirements.

MACC: Examining: What is relative cost per ton of abatement that comes from each measure that in total comprise the mitigation scenario.

David Hill: Outlined the method of their MACC examination.

Various ways to apply and build a MACC.

Examined mitigation potential and cost/ton from various measures. Looked at thru a med to long term lens on various cost/ton (2030, med term; 2050 long term).

12:26 - Taylor Binnington, SEI. Deeper overview of MACC analysis.

Worked from central model; made changes on how the model incorporates investments, in that the original model valued investments in an *annualized* form (spread various equipment measures over time). Reformulated annualized costs into *non annualized* investment costs. Instead of spreading over many years, represented the full cost in the year the measure was implemented.

How to represent costs and GHG impacts (benefits) of a different measure. The Q to answer is: Relative to "what." Examine differences in the cost and abatement you'd get in comparing central mitigation scenario (ala GWSA requirements 80% below 1990 levels by 2050).

MACC is not a cost effectiveness screen; it doesn't calculate other benefits to measures.

- ~12:46 Lay person's description of the MACC analysis/scenarios
- ~12:50 Q and A of CSM Subcommittee
- 1:15 Public comment NONE
- 1:16 Conversation on potential CSM recommendations on input to provide on the budget/funding needs.

Guidance for Sub-Committees on budgeting conversation:

- 1) Budget requests should be bucketed in the following categories:
- Public engagement and outreach
- Analyses with respect to individual elements of the CAP
- General organizing support
- Implementation (key pieces that haven't already been picked up by state agencies no need for comprehensive analysis here, just if something is jumping out)

In Climate Action Office -- \$400,000 for thermal research support, including backfilling for thermal RFP

Rich Cowart – Raised concern that thermal RFP is a more broad analysis of thermal strategies, (didn't center around CHS) as well as concerns around the timing of the deliverables, noting it might not fit will with any likely legislative action necessary.

\$240 million excess in general fund revenues. Opportunity to potentially invest in more climate work.

ANR -- \$1.1 million in base funding for Climate Council work

1-2 years to deploy funds – consider 1 time asks

Consider deliberative polling to support transportation, thermal, other efforts and particular policies

Task Groups – Consider and gauge interest in and support for deliberative polling

BUDGET DISCUSSION ON POTENTIAL PRIORITIES:

- Deliberative polling (in collaboration with Just Transitions)
- Staffing support to the Council ala Jane and Marian's invaluable role to date
 - O Jane: The likely need is really to have increased capacity through the facilitation contract since staff is not really a possibility with one-time funding.
- Potential transportation funding needed to build from existing inventory to develop and establish a new GHG emissions reporting program (a universal reporting program from existing fuel and tax reporting programs) to deliver more granular, state-level data.
- 1:43 Task Group Updates Thermal Transportation Biomass