

**CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

May 17, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

16th Floor Delaware Conference Room
Rachel Carson State Office Building

MEMBERS/ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Chairperson Steve Krug, Vice-Chairperson Mark Hammond, Sarah Nicholas, Joe Sherrick, Paul Opiyo, Patrick Henderson, Gary Merritt, Steve Winberg, Luke Brubaker, Mike Winek, Rob Graff, Terry Bossert, George Ellis

MEMBERS/ALTERNATES ABSENT:

Rep. Greg Vitali, Rep. Ryan Bizzaro, Jim Warner, J. Scott Roberts

PROXY VOTING:

None

PA DEP AND COMMONWEALTH AGENCY STAFF :

Frank Purtell (DEP), John Krueger (DEP), Jessica Shirley (DEP), Mark Brojakowski (DEP) Patrick McDonnell (DEP), Lindsay Byron (DEP), Stewart Beattie (DEP), Gregory Czarnecki (DCNR)

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Laura Legere (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette), Mark Richards (EDF), Nathan Larkin (EDF), Grant Gulibon (Alternate for Mr. Brubaker)

REGULAR MEETING:

The May 17, 2016, regular meeting of the Climate Change Advisory Committee (CCAC) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairperson Steve Krug. Roll call was taken and, with 10 members present at the start of the meeting, a quorum was established. Members, DEP staff and guests introduced themselves.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the November 3, 2015, Climate Change Advisory Committee (CCAC) meeting were presented to the committee for approval by Mr. Krug. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Mr. Brubaker and was seconded. The motion carried by voice vote with one abstention (Mr. Ellis).

MEETING SUMMARY: (This narrative provides a summary of the discussions that took place during the meeting. It is not a transcript of the proceedings.)

AGENCY PRESENTATIONS:

Ms. Lindsay Byron and Mr. Stewart Beattie of DEP's Bureau of Oil & Gas Planning & Program Management offered a PowerPoint presentation on the Bureau's current "DEP Legacy Well Study." The presentation highlighted the regulatory history of well plugging, the purpose of the study, the study methods and some preliminary results. The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer period.

DCNR's Greg Charnecki offered a PowerPoint presentation on "DCNR's Approach to Climate Change – From Carbon Sequestration to Climate Adaptation." The presentation highlighted DCNR's road map for reducing its carbon footprint, adapting to climate change and establishing the department as a role model for effectively dealing with climate change. Topics included: National and Pennsylvania Climate Trends, existing and emerging risks and vulnerabilities, tree species range shifts, forest type distribution, carbon sequestration, adaptation planning and a vulnerability analysis. The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer period.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

The CCAC now carries four vacancies on its membership roster and the Department continues to work on filling these vacancies. In addition, the terms of five members will expire in 2016. The members whose terms expire were encouraged to contact their representative appointing authority to request reappointment.

2015 CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN (Update):

The tentative timeline for the finalization of the 2015 Pennsylvania Climate Change Action Plan (Update) was reviewed and revised to reflect the later date of the May 17 meeting. The tentative dates for the finalization of the Update are as follows:

January 30, 2016 - Public comment period opens for 60 days

March 30, 2016 – Public comment period closes

April 19, 2016 – Meeting materials distributed for CCAC meeting

May 17, 2016 – CCAC Meeting

May 31, 2016 – Comments from CCAC members due to DEP for inclusion in Appendix

June 30, 2016 – Finalization of 2015 Pennsylvania Climate Change Action Plan

Prior to the May meeting DEP distributed the final draft version of the 2015 Pennsylvania Climate Change Action Plan to the members of the committee for review and discussion at the May 17, 2016 meeting. Comments made by the members included an update to the status of the Clean Power Plan, an update on Pennsylvania's position on the beneficial use of landfill gas (PA is no longer second); general comments on the executive summary; specific comments on Chapter 3: Inventory and Projections; Chapter 4: Energy; and Chapter 4A: Energy—Electricity Generation and Transmission, along with typographical comments. A comment was also submitted as to the origin of the legislative recommendations. It was noted that they are not the work of the CCAC but were provided by the Department. In addition, a disclaimer should be added to the Update that the Action Plan is not the work of the Committee; the Committee only provided advise on the development of the individual work plans. It was also suggested that the CCAC be given the Update prior to its public release.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S):

None

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Sherrick and seconded. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

