

Pennsylvania Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

Infrastructure Working Group

July 12, 2010

Attendees:

Bañuelos	Fred	fbañuelos@state.pa.us	DCED- Deputy Director, Governor's Center for Local Government Services
Comoss	Gene	ecomoss@state.pa.us	DCNR--Bureau of Facility Design and Construction
Edinger	Laura	ledinger@state.pa.us	PA PUC
Fawver	Gary	gawver@state.pa.us	PennDOT--Highway Administration, Design
Garland	Liz	lgarland@amrivers.org	American Rivers' Clean Water Program-- Associate Director, PA Program
Good	Megan	megagood@state.pa.us	PUC
Graff	Rob	rgraff@dvrpc.org	DVRPC
Hoover	Kim	khoover@state.pa.us	DEP Climate Change Program
Maloskey	Dennis	dmaloskey@state.pa.us	DEP Governor's Green Gov. Council
Manko	Joseph	jmanko@mgkflaw.com	PENNVEST/Manko, Gold, Katchner & Fox LLP, an Environmental and Energy Law Practice
McNelly	Jeff	office@Aripa.org	ARIPPA
Snowberger	Yasmin	ysnowberge@state.pa.us	Public Utilities Commission
Spila	Danielle	dspila@state.pa.us	PennDOT--Policy Director
Stockwell	Jessie	jstockwell@state.pa.us	DEP Climate Change Program
Stoner	Jim	jastoner@state.pa.us	DEP--Pollution Prevention and Energy Efficiency
Szekeres	Daniel	dszekeres@mbakercorp.com	Michael Baker Jr. Inc.
Watson	Angela	watsona@pbworld.com	Parsons Brinkerhoff, Inc.
Whitney	Sarah	swhitney@psu.edu	PA Sea Grant – Associate Director

Overview of the Goals and Process – Danielle Spila - in accordance with the agenda:

End goal – an adaptation plan that includes:

- 1) Summary of initially defined End goal—an adaptation plan that includes:
 - a. summary of initially defined vulnerabilities and risks with a process to permit/encourage a dynamic list
 - b. Identification of strategies to address vulnerabilities and risks that includes practical strategies and/or a data/research needs list
 - c. Prioritize list of strategies

- d. Recommend both short term and long term plan to adapt beyond immediate priorities
- 2) Process
- a. vulnerabilities
 - b. risks
 - c. implementation strategies and data gaps
 - d. prioritization (short term) and long term plan

Goal for July 12, 2010 Meeting: Review work of May meeting, identify practical adaptation strategies and data currently available and data gaps to address each defined risk area. September meeting – working group will prioritize the strategies developed.

Review of Draft Matrix -

Infrastructure Vulnerabilities and Adaptation Strategies: All

The working group examined the draft matrix and made recommendations for changes and additions. See attached matrix for updates.

Topics that were brought forward for discussion included potential fuel supply problems related to weather events, drought as it relates to increased fire hazard, increased snow removal costs as winter storms escalate, survivability in times of winter power loss situations, smart growth and land use, increased insect infestations, weaker trees, ground source heat pump systems – especially commercial size and open loop systems, lower sulfur diesel in regards to anti-idling laws, increased erosion and sedimentation affecting infrastructure, and the safety factor for temperature on electronics used in infrastructure. Some of these topics may be beyond the scope of this working group, but where workable, will be reflected in the adaptation strategy recommendations.

There was discussion about the importance of land use and planning issues. Much of the planning work is done by municipalities and counties through zoning, ordinances and land use plans. Kim will be contacting stakeholders with expertise on this topic for their input on the matrix.

Additional Items: Kim Hoover will work with the Dickinson college staff on their recommendation for a vision and purpose statement for our working group with perhaps developing both for the overall report of all the working groups. Kim will bring the topic of agricultural infrastructure to the Natural Resources Working Group.

Danielle Spila recommended a call-out box may be used to explain the effect of warming on the snow belt region near Lake Erie in PA.

Emergency preparedness will not be addressed by this group. It was agreed that it is more appropriate to the Public Health and Safety Working Group because human systems are affected by climate impacts that require emergency response. Kim will be contacting a PEMA representative for their input on communications, evacuations and other emergency preparedness..

Communications (lines, towers, etc.) and the building environment as infrastructure will be addressed by this group. Our priorities at this time continue to be water, energy and transportation.

Joe Manko, Chair of Pennvest, provided some additional information regarding vulnerabilities and risks regarding water infrastructure. Liz Garland will incorporate Mr. Manko's recommendations into the draft matrix where possible.