

**MINUTES OF HYBRID MEETING OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD
November 16, 2021**

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA PHONE:

Jenn Baka
Heather Bedi
Adam Cutler
Arthur Frank
Rafiyqa Muhammad
Allison Robinson
Jerome Shabazz
Horace Strand
Tom Torres

DEP STAFF PRESENT

Allison Acevedo, Office of Environmental Justice
John Brakeall, Office of Environmental Justice
Justin Dula, Office of Environmental Justice
Ngani Ndimbie, Office of Environmental Justice
Colton Brown
Lindsay Byron
Kim Hoover
Mark Matlock
Lisa Meade
Forrest Smith
Abbey Cadden
Brian Trowbridge

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT VIA PHONE:

Evan Baylor
Haley Bova
Sam Boden
Linda Cammack
Tanya Dierdorff
Erin Donohue
Steven Early
Mike Ewall
Abbie Foster
Liz Gonzalez
Laura Harding

Ann Johnston
Kelly Megonnel
Melissa Muroff
Tammy Peffer
Doug Rhoads
Michael Schultz
Brad Sims
Summit Terrace
Basir Vincent
Michael Yoder

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Adam Cutler called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Adam Cutler solicited additions or corrections to the Minutes of the August 19, 2021 conference call. Hearing none, Chairman Cutler requested a motion to approve the Minutes.

**Arthur Frank moved to approve the Minutes of the August 19, 2021
conference call. Rafiyqa Muhammad seconded the motion, which was
unanimously approved.**

REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS FROM AUGUST 19, 2021:

Regulatory Update

Abbey Cadden from DEP's Policy Office provided a brief update on three of the Department's proposed rulemakings which included: Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for cleanup values for lead; Maximum Contaminant Level for PFOS and PFOA in drinking water and a rural transfer facility permit-by-rule.

RGGI Updates

Two resolutions are moving through the Legislature in opposition to RGGI. On October 27, the Senate voted to block RGGI and the House took up the resolution as well. DEP continues to work on a plan for the 40% of RGGI investment to EJ communities.

PRESENTATION:

Pennsylvania Climate Impacts Assessment and Climate Action Plan 2021

Lindsay Byron, Environmental Group Manager, DEP Energy Programs Office

This presentation covered DEP's requirements under the PA Climate Change Act of 2008. The Act directs a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory with reduction goals, and development and update of a Climate Impacts Assessment every 3 years. The Climate Impacts Assessment includes impacts to human health, climate action strategies for 5, 10, and 10+ years, and an overview of PA's ongoing climate and energy efforts.

EJ Updates at PA Office of Attorney General

Ann Johnston, Senior Deputy Attorney General

The roles and responsibilities of the Attorney General's Office were offered, and discussion surrounded the ongoing lawsuits over the rollback of air quality, safe drinking water, and coal-fired power plants and the health impacts. The Office of Attorney expressed interest in collaborating with DEP and the OEJ.

Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Rulemaking

Brian Trowbridge, Air Quality Program Specialist, Bureau of Air Quality

Colton Brown, Energy Program Specialist, Energy Programs Office

A presentation was delivered that provided a background on CARB standards and the PA Clean Vehicles Program, as well as proposed amendments to the Program, specifically including the adoption of the CA Zero Emissions Vehicle Program. Environmental benefits of the rulemaking, ZEV trends and economic benefits, social and economic effects, consideration of EJ areas, EV affordability, and the proposed rulemaking schedule were discussed.

EJ POLICY AND EJ EXECUTIVE ORDER DISCUSSION

The Executive Order signed by Governor Wolf at the end of October focused on permanently establishing OEJ under DEP, the EJAB, and the EJ Interagency Council. The deliverables were:

- The OEJ is required to create an EJ strategic plan every five years. This plan ideally will be completed by the end of 2022 that establishes a plan for incorporating EJ beyond the OEJ and provide responsibility around EJ in other program areas.
- Other agencies must develop EJ plans focusing on highlighting and incorporating EJ into their agencies. The OEJ will assist the agencies around that planning.

- Rep. Bullock and other members of the PA Black Caucus introduced HB 2043 to advance EJ in PA, most significantly to create a permit process where cumulative impacts can be considered in the permit process and permits denied based on those impacts. HB 2034 introduced by Rep. Kenyatta codified the EJAB. Rep. Bullock introduced a resolution that would acknowledge and accept the 17 principles of EJ at the EJ Summit in 1991.

The OEJ is focusing on obtaining additional resources to meet the terms of the additional work.

EJ Policy

The anticipation is that the draft EJ Policy will be completed in fall 2022. There have been no substantive changes to the draft EJ Policy since the last EJAB meeting.

2022 MEETING PLANNING

A proposed 2022 schedule will be circulated to all EJAB members. Attention will be focused on details of the traveling meeting in August, which is to be held in the southwestern region of PA.

The EJAB meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM.