

# **CJWG Meeting Notes**

## **WebEx - 3.16.22**

*Disclaimer: Please note, this is not a word for word transcription.*

### **Meeting Commence 3:00pm**

#### **Agenda:**

1. Approval of Minutes from January meeting
2. CAC update
  - response to CJWG input
  - takeaways from 3/3 CAC meeting
  - public hearings on draft scoping plan
3. Approach for Disadvantaged Community Air Monitoring
  - presentation from Division of Air Resources
  - methodology for selection of communities
4. DAC criteria, maps, & public education sessions
  - public maps & materials
  - public engagement plan

#### **Introductions:**

- Alanah Keddell-Tuckey, EJ Director, Office of Environmental Justice, DEC
- Adriana Espinoza, Deputy Commissioner for Equity and Justice (check title)
- Jill Henck, Clean Energy Program Director, (ANCA) Adirondack North Country Association
- Sonal Jessel, Policy and Advocacy Coordinator, WEACTION for Environmental Justice
- Basil Seggos, Commissioner, DEC
- Eddie Bautista, Executive Director, NYC Environmental Justice Alliance
- Elizabeth Yeampierre, Executive Director, UPROSE
- Rahwa Ghirmatzion, Executive Director, PUSH Buffalo
- Randi Walker, Research Scientist 3, Air Resources, DEC
- Marilyn Wurth, Research Scientist, Air Resources, DEC
- Chris Coll, Director of Energy Affordability and Equity Program, NYSERDA
- Neil Muscatiello, Director of the Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology, Center for Environmental Health, DOH
- Joe McNearney, Director of Stakeholder Engagement, DOL
- Sameer Ranade, Climate Justice Advisor with Climate Action Council
- Tyler Picard, Project Manager, Energy and Climate Equity, NYSERDA
- Abigail McHugh-Grifa, Executive Director, Climate Solutions Accelerator
- Donathan Brown, Assistant Provost and AVP for Faculty Diversity and Recruitment at the Rochester Institute of Technology
- Jared Snyder, Deputy Commissioner of Climate, Air and Energy, DEC
- Mary Beth McEwen, Executive Director, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Oneida County
- Alex Dunn, Consultant, Illume Advising

## **Approval of Minutes:**

- Vote on approval of minutes from January 10, 2022 meeting
- CWJG votes yes to approve the minutes

## **CAC Update: Basil**

- Thank you to the working group. Congratulations on getting the DAC criteria draft out for public comment.
- He recognizes some CJWG members expressed concern their input has been ignored by the CAC and further not reflected by the scoping plan. The Commissioner has heard working group members and so has the CAC. He wants to make sure it is visible how the CJWG's input has been incorporated into the scoping plan.

## **CAC Update continued: Sameer**

1. We are providing feedback on how input CJWG members provided has been incorporated into the draft scoping plan.
2. Feedback will be outlined chapter by chapter to show where it was specifically incorporated.
3. We're on track to provide members with documents by the week of March 21.
4. Once members have digested them we will discuss how to engage the CAC going forward.
5. Documents will additionally be shared with the CAC so they can discern areas requiring further discussion.
6. Email coming soon with next steps.

### **Recap of March 3 CAC meeting & overview of draft scoping plan**

- Jan-Jun Information gathering
  - Jun-Aug Discussions and Deliberations
  - Sept-Dec Drafting and Plan Finalization

### **Public Hearing Progress:**

- Schedule has been finalized
  - Written public comment period has been extended to June 10, 2022
    - Will be holding 10 hearings, 8 in person and 2 virtual

**Eddie:** Recommends collating and curating feedback the CJWG gave about the various working group recommendations. I would take our feedback and speak to the main 3 buckets of work. eg) gas transitions is 1/3 of buckets of work

**Sameer:** Let me suggest that to the others. For now CJWG feedback will be broken down by sector.

**Eddie:** To be clear I mean taking CJWG feedback to the CAC.

**Jared:** Those three working groups are somewhat cross sectoral. This may mean taking input from different chapters and providing that to those working groups.

## Approach for Disadvantaged Community Air Monitoring

### Air Monitoring Program update- Jared:

- We are still working out details on the community air monitoring program.
- Overview of strategy to select the community for monitoring:
  - The CLCA requires monitoring in 4 communities.
  - Gov Hochul wants a large-scale screening effort covering 10 communities.
  - **Goal:** Target areas with higher burdens.
- Will be in better position to identify details after budget is complete.
  - So statewide screening effort plus targeted effort in some communities
  - **Purpose:** Lay groundwork for identifying solutions for areas impacted by high levels of pollution.

### Selection of 10 communities- Marilyn Wirth

- DEC values the CJWG's input on the selection process
- Overview of CLCPA (Climate Leadership & Community Protection Act) Requirements
- Slide with language from the law
- Goal of air monitoring is to create emissions reduction strategies by Jun.1,2024
- Started with 45 indicators and ended with 12 environmental burden indicators
- Calculated air pollution burden score
- NY city has the most DACS followed by mid-Hudson, western NY, Finger Lakes, the capital region.
- Explanation and presentation of maps

**Marilyn:** Would it be helpful if the community had a tool where they could provide their concerns to us? We could then integrate those into the analysis.

**CJWG members:** Yes. If we could also provide people who are trained, that would be beneficial.

**Eddie:** How does DEC see these deeper layers of analysis affecting permitting decisions; if at all?

**Jared:** This is all to inform the problem solving. This monitoring will identify where the problem sources are. eg) heavy traffic in areas, industrial sources etc. Next we need to consider that in decisions we make whether regulatory or permitting.

## DAC criteria, maps, & public education sessions

- ❖ Conversation about DACS and the webpage

Reference: <https://climate.ny.gov/Our-Climate-Act/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria>

- Interactive map of communities that meet the draft disadvantaged communities criteria
- Draft list of disadvantaged communities criteria

- Technical documentation on the draft disadvantaged communities criteria
- Summary documentation on the draft disadvantaged communities criteria
- Technical documentation appendix.

Overview of ways anyone can provide Public Comments:

- Public comment form available on the disadvantaged communities website.
- [DACComments@dec.ny.gov](mailto:DACComments@dec.ny.gov)
- U.S mail, address mail as follows:  
Draft DAC Comments  
NYS DEC, Attn. Office of Environmental Justice  
625 Broadway, 14<sup>th</sup> floor, Albany, NY 12233
- Can email comments to [justice@dec.ny.gov](mailto:justice@dec.ny.gov)
- \*\*All methods of submitting comments are weighed equally

Public Engagement/ Education Sessions -Alanah

- 6 hearings are mandated by the CLCPA
- Public engagement sessions goal is to host 2 session via WebEx to assist everyone with technical questions or issues that may arise
- We plan to have a pre-recorded session via WebEx
- We plan to have a pre-recorded video to explain the documentation in the maps

Hearings -Alanah

- We are moving toward a hybrid hearing schedule. Mix of virtual and in-person
- We are in the planning stage and will have something soon as we are ready
- Goal is to have people register in advance to accommodate anyone with special needs. eg) language needs, hearing impaired

Public Comment Analysis- Alanah

- **Reminder:** *Public comment period closes July 7,2022*
- We are working on a plan to analyze and synthesize these comments
- Discussion of ideas, comments, etc. for our plan
- Discussed sending something out ahead of time for folks not accustomed to using WebEx. eg) reminder folks may need to download things ahead of time
- CJWG members are welcome to email Alanah their ideas/suggestions.

**Next Steps**

- Building out our public engagement plan.
- Building out our Hearings plan.
- Keeping everyone aware of what's happening. Cannot do in real-time but we can keep everyone informed.

**End: 4:21pm**