



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

Climate Justice Working Group Meeting

November 14, 2023

Meeting Procedures

- Meeting rooms will be muted to reduce noise
- Working Group members should raise their hand to indicate they would like to speak
- Please state your name before speaking for transcript purposes
- Remote participants should be on video with name visible per Open Meetings Law



Agenda



Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Approve minutes from previous meetings
3. Vote on Bylaws
4. Draft DEC Policy on CLCPA 7(3) (DEP 23-1)
5. Draft Investments and Benefits Strategy and Interagency Guidelines
6. Discussion of DAC criteria review
7. Future Meetings
8. Next Steps



Roll Call



Approval of Minutes



Bylaws

The background of the slide features a close-up of an olive branch with green leaves and small olives, set against a soft, golden sunset sky. In the top right corner, there is a white stylized logo of a tree or plant with a yellow circle below it.

DEC Policy on Permitting and Disadvantaged Communities (DEP 23-1)

Permitting and Disadvantaged Communities (DEP-23-1)

New draft policy to implement environmental justice provisions of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act).

- Provides guidance in DEC's permitting processes for considering impacts and existing burdens on New York's most vulnerable communities under the Climate Act's Section 7(3).
- Section 7(3) requires agency actions to avert disproportionate burdens on disadvantaged communities and prioritize reductions of greenhouse gas emissions and co-pollutants in these communities.
- DEP-23-1 describes the content of analyses required by DEC staff and the procedures DEC staff will follow when reviewing those analyses.
- Available for public comment until close of business **November 27th, 2023**.



Investments and Benefits Guidelines

Accounting of Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy Investments

Investments that meet the following conditions:

1. Authorized or implemented by a **New York State agency, authority, or entity**; and
2. **Clean Energy** or **Energy Efficiency** investment, as either:
 - a) a stand-alone program, *or*
 - b) components of programs within the categories outlined in the Climate Act (i.e., housing, workforce development, pollution reduction, low -income energy assistance, energy, transportation, and economic development); and
3. **Place-based**, where:
 - a) the funds can be directed to communities, or where benefits of a program can be localized to a defined geographic area; *and/or*
 - b) a clean energy or energy efficiency investment anywhere in the State that is within a low-income household defined as at or below 60 percent state median income (SMI).

Co-Benefits Reporting

CO-BENEFITS CATEGORY	CO-BENEFITS METRICS
Electricity and Fuel Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Electricity Savings (MWh) •Fuel Savings (MMBtu)
Participant bill savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Participant bill savings from reductions in electricity and fuel usage (Dollars) •Transportation fuel cost savings (Dollars)
Health benefits related to outdoor/ambient air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Monetized health impacts due to changes in electricity and fuel use (Dollars) •Reduction in air pollutants (NH3, NOX, PM25, SO2, VOC)
Employment impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Directly contracted jobs (FTE) •Number of individuals trained (Count)

Notable Key Constraints and Considerations for Initial Report:

- **Must be trackable across all agencies**
- **Quantifiable in the near term**
- **Additional co-benefit metrics to be included based on stakeholder input**

Placed-based vs State- or System-wide Investments

Placed-based and State- or system-wide investments

•**Place-based investments**, where initiatives can reasonably prioritize or target investments to individuals, households, businesses, and other entities within specific geographic areas (e.g., DAC or county).

•**State- or system-wide investments**, where initiatives are designed to meet the overall needs of the State's energy infrastructure or other state or system-wide grid objectives.

Placed-based Examples	State or System-wide Examples
Energy efficiency upgrades for a household	Grid-scale renewable energy such as windfarms
Electric vehicle rebates for individuals	Zero emission credits such as ZECs
Distributed energy resources such as community solar	Research and development

Attribution of Investments for DACs: Examples

Investment Type	Reporting Methodology
Multifamily Affordable Housing	When site is located outside of a DAC, count 40% of investments given ~40% of affordable housing residents within state and city affordable housing portfolios at or below the 60% SMI threshold. Buildings inside a DAC will count at 100%.
Community Solar	Community Solar investments will count towards the DAC goal based on what percent of a project's <u>subscribers</u> are DAC residents, not based on where the project is physically located.
Community-wide Investments	The amount of the investment counted towards the DAC goal based on the percentage of population in each community (county, town, city or village) that are in a DAC.
Workforce Training	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Where the program is targeting individuals for training, agencies should track investments based on where the <u>trainee resides</u> 2) Where an investment is focused on building an organization's training capacity the investment should be tracked at the <u>location of the training center</u>

Draft Statewide Disadvantaged Communities Investments and Co-benefits Reporting Timeline

Milestone / Activity	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May
Public Comment Period & Review		▶					
Release Guidance to State Agencies & Kick-off Data Collection Process			◆				
State Agencies Work to Populate Templates			▶				
State Agencies Submit Templates					◆		
QA/QC Data and Revisions					▶		
Publish First DAC Results							◆



Annual Review



Next Steps



Questions?



Thank You!