

Alternative Fuels Subgroup Meeting Notes

Meeting Details:

- Date: July 13, 2022, 3:30 PM – 5 PM

Council Member Participants:

- Richard Ball
- Henry Spliethoff (obo Mary Bassett)
- Rory Christian
- Donna DeCarolis
- Dennis Elsenbeck
- Bob Howarth
- Peter Iwanowicz

Meeting Agenda/Topics Covered:

- Overview and procedures
 - The subgroup reviewed feedback from the Climate Action Council report out. The subgroup briefly discussed ensuring coordination and communication with the other subgroups.
- Discussion of alternative fuels in the NYS GHG inventory report
 - The subgroup discussed the need to make sure all members are in general agreement on the metrics used to estimate the contribution to emissions reductions when assessing the use of alternative fuels.
 - A table with combustion emissions from biofuels was presented. A member of the subgroup disagreed with the methodology.
 - The subgroup discussed the specific accounting that is required to be used under the Climate Act, how it varies from other bodies, and how it specifically impacts the use of alternative fuels in New York.
 - The subgroup recognizes that there is no uniform accounting standard across states or the Federal government.
 - Emission reduction policies can apply different accounting methodologies than the annual emissions inventory, an example being lifecycle analysis accounting.
- Discussion of alternative fuels assessment criteria
 - The subgroup continued to work on refining the assessment criteria upon which to use when reviewing the particular fuels and uses described in the draft plan. They incorporated various changes as proposed by subgroup members.
 - The subgroup discussed ensuring proper consideration of disadvantaged communities, affordability, reduction of GHG emissions and co-pollutant emissions, and how to factor in technology changes and needs over time.
- Test use case of alternative fuels against assessment criteria
 - The subgroup evaluated a specific recommendation in the draft Scoping Plan using the draft assessment criteria (use of hydrogen fuel cells in MHD vehicles) and made determinations on further refinements based on the conversation.

- Discussion and refinement of the assessment criteria will continue in subsequent meetings
- Next steps
 - The subgroup determined next meeting times and discussion topics.
 - Further discussion on biofuels combustion emissions will occur between meetings