

CJWG Meeting Notes

WebEx - 7.27.21

Meeting Commence 1:00pm

Agenda:

- A. Introductions
- B. CAC Update
- C. DAC Criteria Timeline
- D. Considered Indicators
- E. Draft Scenario
- F. Next Steps

Introductions

- Amy Klein CEO Capital Roots
- Jared Snyder, Deputy Commissioner, Air Resources, Climate Change Energy, DEC
- Randy Walker Research Scientist 3, Air Resources, DEC
- Sarah Osgood, Executive Director of Climate Action Council (CAC)
- Eddie Bautista, Executive Director, NYC Environmental Justice Alliance
- Rahwa Ghirmatzion, Executive Director, PUSH Buffalo
- Jerrod Bley, Clean Energy Program Director, Adirondack North Country Association
- Alanah Keddell-Tuckey, Public Outreach Specialist , DEC, Office of Environmental Justice
- Rosa Mendez, Director, Office of Environmental Justice, DEC
- Chris Coll, Director of Energy Affordability and Equity Program, NYSERDA
- Joseph McNearney, Director of Stakeholder Engagement, DOL
- Alex Dunn – Consultant, Illume Advising
- Amanda Dwelley – Consultant, Illume Advising
- Abigail McHugh-Grifa, Executive Director for Climate Solutions Accelerator

Agenda:

- Introductions
- DAC Criteria Timeline
- Considered Indicators
- Draft Scenarios
- Public Presentation and Comment Process
- Next Steps

CAC Update & CJWG Meeting Schedule

- Potential Aug 4 (10am-12pm) prep for voting meetings, CAC integration analysis
- Aug 12 (2pm-4pm) consensus building on indicators

- Aug 26 (2pm-4pm) consensus building on scenarios
- Potential Sept 9/10 (time TBD) final review
- Week of Sept 13 In person voting

Eddie: Can CAC administration analysis discussion that occurred last week be shared with the working group?

Rosa: Yes. We have the presentation and there should be a recording we can share also.

Working group: We are concerned about being able to attend upcoming August weekly meetings.

Jerrod: Can we streamline the meetings so there are not so many in August?

Abigail: Where does our continued feedback on panel recommendations fit into this schedule?

Rosa: That's something we can weave into these 3 August meetings or we can work out additional time. Consolidating meetings depends on how many outstanding questions arise today. Goal of meetings is to make members comfortable before September's vote. We will gauge how we feel after today's meeting to see if consolidation is best.

DAC Criteria Timeline

Indicators: Illume

- Last week we shared a background indicators document which had 160 indicators.
- We wanted to provide time today for any questions about it.
 - Update: working group has not had time to review.
- Illume reshared document.
- Currently 45 indicators, waiting on an additional indicator for low birth weight. Review of Community Burdens and Potential Risks: risks equals 1st half of indicators
- Review of Population Vulnerabilities: vulnerabilities equals/classifies 2nd half of indicators
- Questions from working group?

Abigail: Hard to explain burdens versus vulnerabilities to people in layman's terms. Is there a way to simplify and make the differences clearer for comprehension?

Amanda: Great question. Yes we looked at ways to make this clearer for folks. Basically,

- **community burdens** means/shows the characteristics of a *place* rather than of the people living in it.

- **vulnerabilities** means/shows characteristics of the *people* in a location in addition to their individual health sensitivities

Abigail: Thank you. How you just described it makes it easier to follow and understand plain enough to explain to the general public.

Amanda: Trick is characteristics related to the place (community burdens) historically are related to (vulnerabilities) what people were living there. Same characteristics can appear in both. We can note the above simplified definition in the description for folks who may not have a scientific background.

Jerrod: Appreciate that breakdown and Illume's willingness to make an amendment for clarity.

Illume: Does the CJWG have any questions about the approach to overall indicators? What can we do to make the group comfortable for the upcoming vote?

Chris: When we go through the public comment process we'll have an additional opportunity to hear what things may be missing from the list of indicators. Also if the list is too large. Let's avoid making decisions now until we go through the public comment process.

Jerrod: If after the public comment process new indicators are found what is the process of incorporating those into the current list of 45?

Illume: Great question. We have not ironed out that process yet. We'd like to mirror the process we had in the beginning to add any new indicators post public comment. This is the most efficient way to document.

Presentation of Draft Scenarios via slides: Illume

- Income (ie) DACs with higher income
- Income pops up as a very important thing for us to be looking at

Changes Illume made:

- Display whether designation came from statewide, NYC or ROS score
- Show same income metrics as in score (<80% AML;<100% FPL)

Working Group Concerns:

- How many census tracts are we looking at?
- Is there a specific number the working group needs to cover for Illume?
- **Illume:** No, If working group can do say 10 tracts, that is very helpful.

Jerrod: Does Illume have the capability to track census tracts that have been ground truthed through the maps Illume has made? Visual cue would be way easier.

Illume DACs regional distribution:

- Overall across the state 35% census tracts are classified as DAC's.
- Long Island has lowest tier at 9% census tracts are classified as DAC.
- NY city has highest tier at 47% census tracts are classified as DAC.

Continue presentation of maps by Illume

Eddie: When discussing higher incidences of cancer in Long Island are those for people living in the surrounding area or for people working there?

Amy: Historically Long Island's east end, agriculture workers and residents had very high cancer rates. At one point Long Island had the highest breast cancer rates in either NY state or the country.

Illume's Goals to work through with working group:

- Discussed some kind of income filter
- We want to think about interaction with race
- Trying to figure out balance of income with everything else
- Higher income does not always indicate an area that is not a DAC
- Investigate how flooding is a bigger environmental issue/burden for some areas, ie) Long Island
- When you have a whole list of burdens how is an area that is susceptible to one burden get accounted for

Next Steps:

Public Process: Alanah 2:13:11

What steps will look like going forward:

- Working group votes and has released draft indicators to the public then
- 120 day comment period begins:
 - Goal> start public hearing process which entails:
 - public educational sessions (recorded)
 - plan is recorded sessions will be located on ny.climate.gov, DEC's YouTube page, and OEJ page, so folks have access
 - Public hearings> minimum of 6 hearings
 - Min 3 upstate and 3 downstate hearings
 - Can add more if necessary
 - For DEC we have an administrative law judge to make sure session is recorded.
 - Will have brief introduction to the issue/process.
 - Want public to have an opportunity to comment.
 - Best for CJWG to be heavily involved in educational session if they can be in attendance

Alanah:

- OEJ will be collecting comments through 120 day comment period.
- Public can comment through email or snail mail.

- We are mindful of major holidays within this time period and may factor them into our decision timetable.

Illume: May be helpful for working group members to provide educational sessions with their constituents.

Eddie: At physical public hearing is there a mandate that the majority of CJWG must be present?

Alanah: Some meetings will be in person as well as via WebEx. There is no requirement for CJWG members to attend hearings or education sessions. It is beneficial to have 2-3 members present who can answer technical questions for the public.

Abigail: How do we process the information coming in?

Alanah: Will be categorization and reading of the comments. All comments will be stored for public record. We will collect physical mail and store it for historical purposes. Email correspondence will be collected and stored electronically also.

Illume: Ask for a commitment that members review documents and maps Illume sends out before the next meeting Aug 12.

Jerrod: How will getting prepared for next CAC meeting factor into this timeline?

Rosa: We can use a date in August for an hour to prepare. Options are Aug 4 and Aug 12 or Aug 12 and Aug 26. Rosa will follow up by email on the two days we will move forward with.

Next Meeting Steps

- Rosa to follow up with CJWG via email on keeping Aug12 and Aug 26 meeting dates.
- Illume's next steps will be emailed to working group as a reminder.

End 3:55pm