

#### **4.4.2023 CJWG Meeting**

##### **Meeting Commence 12:13pm**

Disclaimer: *\*Please note this is not a word for word translation*

##### **Agenda:**

- Roll Call
- Vote on minutes from 3/27/23
- Status of Benefits Reporting
- Annual review of criteria
- Bylaws and other Duties
- Future Meetings
- Next Steps

##### **Panelist/CJWG Members:**

- Alanah Keddell-Tuckey, EJ Director, Office of Environmental Justice, (DEC) Department of Environmental Conservation
- Adriana Espinoza, Deputy Commissioner for Equity and Justice, (DEC) Department of Environmental Conservation
- Chris Coll, Director of Energy Affordability and Equity Program, (NYSERDA) New York State Energy Research & Development Authority
- Elizabeth Furth, Empire Fellow, (DOL) Department of Labor
- Jill Henck, Clean Energy Program Director, (ANCA) Adirondack North Country Association
- Abigail McHugh-Grifa, Executive Director, Climate Solutions Accelerator of the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region
- Sonal Jessel, Policy and Advocacy Coordinator, WEACTION for Environmental Justice
- Rahwa Ghirmatzion, Executive Director, PUSH Buffalo
- Neil Muscatiello, Director of the Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology, Center for Environmental Health, (DOH) Department of Health
- Alex Dunn, Director, Illume Advising
- Shannon Kahl, Senior Consultant, Illume Advising
- Andrea Linton, Public Participation Specialist, Office of Communication Services, (DEC) Department of Environmental Conservation
- Emma Antolos, Public Participation Specialist, Office of Communication Services, (DEC) Department of Environmental Conservation
- Craig Pettinger, Public Participation Specialist, Office of Communication Services, (DEC) Department of Environmental Conservation
- Haley Viccaro, Strategic Communications Director for Climate, (DEC) Department of Environmental Conservation
- Lisa Covert, General Counsel, (DEC) Department of Environmental Conservation
- Sameer Ranade, Climate Justice Advisor with (CAC) Climate Action Council
- Sunny Joshi, Senior Counsel, (NYSERDA) New York State Energy Research & Development Authority
- Tyler Picard, Project Manager Energy and Climate Energy, (NYSERDA) New York State Energy Research & Development Authority

**Attendees Board Rooms:**

Albany, Raybrook

**Quorum for today's meeting:**

No physical quorum, cannot vote on minutes from 3/27/23

**Status of Benefits Reporting**

Currently in the process of developing a format and process for tracking and reporting on clean energy and energy efficiency investments, and the benefits with the DACs. Will be developing guidance for agencies during this process. Hoping that it will be finished within the next several weeks. Plan to review at next meeting possibly in June.

State agencies are going to track and report out on the place based clean energy and energy efficiency investments so we can be in compliance with the Climate Acts goal, 40% of the benefits accruing to DACs. Additionally, we expect that agencies are also going to track and report on co-benefits of the spending such as energy savings, employment, workforce development and health impacts.

**Annual Review**

Annual Review of DAC Criteria

NYC and technical team will:

- Monitoring developments in other regions
- Review indicators & methodology
- Assessing availability of new data – review existing data, data that we had on consideration lists, updates to existing data sets
- Track DAC criteria with an eye to assessing outcomes and implementation
- Make recommendations to the working group

**Sonal:** I wanted to make a statement. There are several CJWG members that are concerned with some of the processes that are unfolding right now with the CLCPA and state budget process. A couple of CJWG members have decided to boycott this meeting because of that concern and I think that's something that's important to highlight. We also have several CJWG members that have decided to write a letter together to Commissioner Seggos and President Harris about our concern with the NYS budget process as it relates to a change in the CLCPA after we spent 3 plus years on how to address the climate crisis in NYS. Some of us will be leaving this meeting but we are interested in engaging in a process around how we can restore more faith in this process. I will be leaving this meeting.

**Rahwa:** I will also be leaving the meeting.

**Abby:** I will be leaving as well.

**Alanah:** Thank you to the CJWG members for making their voices heard. I can't speak to the budget negotiations. We do still have an ongoing commitment to public involvement in all areas of implementation of the climate act and there will absolutely be opportunities for folks to comment. We're going to make sure that every aspect stays transparent with regards to the CJWG. We have maintained a transparent process and we'll continue to make it a transparent process. Looking forward to meeting with the members in the future and discussing these issues and issues that are directly related to the CLCPA.

**Announcement:** Dr. Donathan Brown will no longer represent the rural communities on behalf of the CJWG.

### **Bylaws and Other Duties**

CJWG staff is currently developing bylaws for the CJWG that will address:

- The duties of the CJWG
- The meeting format
- Resignation and appointment of members
- Annual DAC review

### **Current Statutory Duties**

CLCPA

- Consultation on air toxics emissions reduction strategy by June 2024 on or before June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024
- Consultation on updates to the Scoping Plan

Article 58, title 7 of the ECL – Consultation with DEC on a study on the impacts of the Urban Heat Island Effect on DACs impacts of the urban heat island effect on DACs

### **Potential Legislation**

A964/S1292: amend the ECL to require the development of a clean fuel standard in NYS and would require the consultation of the CJWG and CAC with regards to the investment of funds

S5260: establishes an office of energy for equity to support local and communally developed climate projects to support DACs, including by establishing and administering the community solutions fund and the solutions grants program. This legislation also requires consultation with and reporting to the CJWG on the use of funds.

### **Future Meetings**

Preference for pre-scheduled meetings, around 90 minutes

How often would you like to meet?

Quarterly 90 - minutes

- Easier to stay engaged

Triannual 90 - minutes

- Easier to schedule

Biannually 2 - hours

- Fewer meetings, more emails

Annually - Full day (8 hrs in Albany)

- Not ideal 😞

### **Next Steps**

Alanah will be sending a poll for dates in June or July. Should have a set of bylaws ready for a vote and a better idea of potential legislative, additional duties and a clearer idea of what the benefits and reporting structure will look like.

### **Questions?**

**Meeting adjourned 12:40pm**