

**Cross-Sector Mitigation Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council**  
**March 4, 2021 Meeting – Minutes**

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Date/Time: Thursday March 4, 2021, 1:00 PM  
Location: Meeting was recorded and [posted publicly](#)  
Members Present: Peter Walke, Richard Cowart, Liz Miller, Johanna Miller, Jared Duval, Ed McNamara, David Farnsworth, Christine Donovan, Peter Bourne  
Members Absent: Adam Knudsen, Gina Campoli

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- 1:00 PM Welcome by Chair & Co-Chair
- Introduction of new members of Committee.
  - Point of consideration: Should this Committee have liaisons from the following Agriculture and Ecosystems and Rural Resilience and Adaptation Subcommittees?
    - Peter, Richard, and the Steering Committee will review and determine next steps.
- 1:05 PM Proposed Revisions to Subcommittee Charter
- Peter Walke offered a friendly Amendment: Jared Duval has made some edits and Jane Lazorchak has put together a narrower version of the Charter to talk through and review should start with those items.
  - Jane Lazorchak will share the proposals from the RFI with the Subcommittee.
  - At the next meeting, a breakdown of focus issues per sector will be presented to the group so all sectors understand where everyone is focusing and will allow new members to get up to speed on previous conversations.
- 1:40 PM Review Vermont Climate Action Commission Report and Work
- Developed 53 recommendations broken down in the same groupings as this Subcommittee, without focusing as much time on the non-energy component.
  - Each task lead will meet with Richard and Peter to ensure agreement on how they are going to do research and discussion before next meeting.
- 1:58 PM Review EAN Pathways Analysis
- Jared Duval introduced a resource as a reference point to help meet the legally binding emissions reduction requirements especially in the areas of transportation, thermal and electricity.
  - EAN’s Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA) Pathways Analysis
    - Buildings on EAN’s “Path to Paris” model.
    - GWSA pathways model lead is Mei Butler.
    - Models scale and pace of emissions reduction necessary to meet 2025

and 2030 GWSA requirements.

- Incorporates proven and available technologies and best practices for which we have peer-reviewed sources.
- Starts from a 2018 baseline for VT GHG Emissions.
- Consistent with GWSA, models pathways to achieve the 79% of emissions reduction the energy sectors are responsible for.
- This is a point in time analysis – technologies, markets, behaviors all constantly evolving.
- Farther out in time = less certain. More confidence in nearer-term projections.
- Technology pathways, not policy pathways.
- Illustrative pathways, not a narrow/exact prescription.
- Ongoing model review and development. Currently working to incorporate feedback and improvements from dozens of expert reviewers.

2:20 PM BREAK

2:30 PM Review Sector Specific GHG Inventory Numbers and Needed Reductions

- Peter Walke shared an estimated breakdown of the key milestone dates and where we stand now as of 2018 (below):

Sector	1990	2005	2016	2018	2025	Reduction from 2018	2030	Reduction from 2018
Transportation	3.38	4.49	4.34	4.22	3.32	21.27%	2.03	51.94%
Buildings/Heat	2.45	3	2.68	2.72	2.22	18.38%	1.47	45.96%
Power	1.09	0.64	0.81	0.19	0.47	-149.26%	0.65	-244.21%
Non-energy	1.73	2.17	1.94	1.9	1.61	15.48%	1.04	45.37%

Units: Million Metric Tons of CO2 Equivalent (MMTCO2)

2:46 PM Coordination Between Subcommittees

- This has been covered in previous meetings and there were no other suggestions made.

2:47 PM Task Lead Updates

- Transportation – Johanna Miller and (ADDED) Gina Campoli.
- Buildings – Richard Cowart had agreed to lead but David Farnsworth will lead the discussions moving forward.

- Power – Liz Miller and Ed McNamara.
- Non-Energy – Peter Walke.
- Next steps:
  - This Subcommittee will schedule their next meeting in March.
  - Will run through the top policy proposals that each of the Task Leaders thinks is important for the full Subcommittee w/scoping.
    - Peter Walke will determine if a common editable document will meet public meeting laws and distribute that to Members if allowable.
  - Peter Walke and Ed McNamara will identify state staff who will be able to provide technical assistance and get approval from the various Departments.

3:00 PM Additions to Agenda

- Approval of Minutes
  - The previous minutes will be distributed for review.
- Creation of next Agenda. Topics include:
  - Review of Task Lead prioritization lists.
  - Identifying State staff who can provide technical assistance.
  - Approval of Minutes from [February 17](#), [February 25](#), and March 4.
- Confirmation of recurring meetings: Every two weeks on Wednesdays at noon.
  - Members will follow up with their contacts in other Subcommittees as well as co-task leads to ensure there are no conflicts.

3:12 PM Public Comment

- Steve Crowley spoke from the public and full comments may be viewed in the [video recording](#) of the meeting.

3:21 PM Adjourn

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