



AIR AND CLIMATE PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

July 23, 2018
5:30 - 7:30 P.M.

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

ACPAC MEMBERS (*VIA PHONE)

Kelsey Crane*
Andrew Kambour
Robin Lewis
Hilary Lewis
Sarah Mazur
Hyon Rah
Rodney Sobin
Gabriel Thoumi
Glenna Tinney
Tamara Toles O'Laughlin

STAFF

Amanda Campbell
Maia Davis
Tim Masters
Steve Walz

1. CALL TO ORDER, AGENDA, MEETING SUMMARY APPROVAL

Tamara Toles O'Laughlin, ACPAC Vice Chair

2. PROJECT DRAWDOWN – REVERSING GLOBAL WARMING

Crystal Chissell, Project Drawdown

Project Drawdown involved sixty-five researchers on six continents and twenty-two countries to do the math on how to reverse global warming, and if it is financially feasible with current proven technologies. The research team homed in on 80 measures that collectively could plateau total greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and then start to decrease them. The measure categories include energy, food, women and girls, buildings and cities, land use, transport, and materials. The project also lists a suite of other actions that may become viable in the future with new technologies.

Some surprises were that refrigerants and food actions were ranked higher and more important than energy generation overall.

Drawdown communications team chooses not to use language with jargon or with negative or militaristic connotations, such as 'decarbonize', 'negative carbon', 'fighting global warming', etc., in order not to demonize carbon, but to focus instead on bringing the system back into balance. Language choices aim to focus on collaboration on solutions and not defining the problem.

Cincinnati, Ohio is using the drawdown model in their climate action plan. A new cohort of research fellows will be developing platforms to make the analysis more available and broadly adaptable. The project details are available here: <https://www.drawdown.org/>

3. CLIMATE AND ENERGY LEADERSHIP AWARDS JUDGING

All

ACPAC members judged the Climate and Energy Leadership Awards applications in the categories of government, non-governmental organization, and educational institution. Winners will be announced at the COG Board meeting in October.

4. UPDATES

- Ozone Season Update, American Lung Association State of the Air Report. So far this summer the region has had 7 code orange days and 1 code red days. In other news, the American Lung Association's annual State of the Air report. The DC-Baltimore region was ranked 17th worst out of 227 metropolitan areas in the US for ozone, receiving an 'F' grade. The region scored a passing grade on particulate matter, though. The report is available here: <http://www.lung.org/our-initiatives/healthy-air/sota/city-rankings/>

- Federal Regulatory Updates: MWAQC is planning to submit the comment letter on EPA's Transparency in Regulatory Science proposal.

- What We Can Do Project (Amanda Campbell)

COG held a workshop on the local air quality measures on June 21 to start to identify priorities and next steps. We had an excellent turn out from energy and air quality staff from around the region. The main areas discussed included:

- a. Transportation programs and planning to reduce emissions from light-duty vehicles by encouraging increased reliance on alternative modes, for example, improving bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, rideshare and telework programs,
- b. Reducing emissions from heavy duty on-road vehicles and construction equipment, especially anti-idling,
- c. Buildings, renewable energy, and peak shaving with battery storage and reducing peak emissions from back-up generators
- d. Education, outreach, and advocacy
- e. Tree and forest cover and green infrastructure for air quality, water quality, and community benefits

COG will form some follow-up activities around these themes. A summary is posted on the ACPAC site if you are interested in more details.

- CEEPC and MWAQC meetings July 25:

CEEPC and BEEAC are holding (held) a workshop on the drivers of greenhouse gas emissions changes on Wednesday and heard from speakers from ICLEI, and a panel discussion on how the region can achieve 'deep' greenhouse gas reductions.

MWAQC is a conference call. One thing they are discussing in addition to the WWCD project is an MWAQC strategic planning session and the Diesel Idle Reduction Campaign.

ADJOURN.