

ECO Working Group Meeting Minutes December 10, 2015

The meeting was convened at 10:30 at the Maryland Department of the Environment by the Working Group Chair, Lori Arguelles.

Attending in person: Lori Arguelles (Ferguson Foundation), Tad Aburn (MDE Air Director), Lisa Nissley (MDE), Liz Entwisle (MDE), Brian Hug (MDE), Louis Campion (MD Motor Truck Association), Steve Arabia (NRG), Allison Rich (MdeHN), Devan Willemsen (MEA), (Dave Costello (consultant).

Attending by phone: Pat Harcourt (UMCES), Samantha Lozano (DHCD), Joe Hart (MDA), Samantha Kappalman (Hatcher Group).

Welcome and opening remarks. Chair Lori Arguelles convened the meeting at 10:30 and members introduced themselves.

Update on MCCC report. Tad Aburn and Brian Hug reported that MCCC members would get the draft report on December 11 for final review and would convene by conference call on December 16 at 9:30 to vote on its approval. If approved, the report and an accompanying press release prepared by the ECO working group would be released later that morning. Lori noted that if the report were not approved on December 16, the collective wisdom was to wait until after the holidays. Samantha Kappalman shared a draft press release with ECO members. Lori delegated further work on it to the drafting group identified in ECO's November meeting. MDE recommended that it be shortened and reported that it would be released by MDE as the MCCC chair. There was discussion about outreach to communities and op eds as a lead up to the 2016 Session of the General Assembly. Lori said ECO would focus on this after the the report and press release were issued.

Update on Fall outreach meetings. Lori reported that the MCCC held three meetings, on Nov. 30, Dec. 1 and Dec. 3, in Baltimore, Silver Spring and Lusby, with a fourth scheduled for Dec. 17 in Easton and a fifth, in western Maryland, postponed to 2016. The Baltimore meeting was well staffed with MCCC, ECO, MDE and DNR representatives but only one member of the public (who opened the building) attended. About 20 people attended the Silver Spring meeting and their key message was to focus on implementing the key drivers in the GGRA Plan. The Lusby meeting was attended by about 15 people and the focus was on the Cove Point natural gas export facility.

ECO 2016 Work Plan. Lori led a discussion on the work plan and reported that the MCCC has postponed its review of all the working groups' work plans to its January meeting. There was consensus that ECO's primary task is to build a sustainable platform and capacity to conduct public outreach and education on the triple messaging of greenhouse gas reductions, the economy and public health. Lori recommended that the work plan be divided into quarterly deliverables with this primary task being the 1st quarter deliverable. Capturing the inventory of key stakeholders and sectors and building

a calendar of public meetings on which ECO could piggyback, hosting this inventory and other resource multipliers within the state (UMCES was mentioned), identifying additional financial resources to support ECO's work and sharing best communication practices with new ECO members were identified as elements of the communications platform. Additional outreach meetings were discussed for 2016 with a focus on what should be in the next update of the GGRA Plan in the event GGRA is renewed. Lori asked members to consider how often ECO should meet in 2016 and said that she, Allison Rich and other interested members would develop a two-page draft work plan for ECO members to review.

Adjournment. Lori adjourned the meeting at noon. The next scheduled meeting of the ECO Working Group is on Thursday, January 14, 2016.