



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

1800 Washington Boulevard • Baltimore MD 21230

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Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd Rutherford
Lieutenant Governor

Ben Grumbles
Secretary

Maryland Commission on Climate Change

Steering Committee Meeting # 2

Agenda

10:00 – Introductions/Goals for Meeting – Chair and Co-Chairs

10:10 - Overview of Commission Law - MDE

- Relationship with the EO that stays in effect until June 2016

10:30 - Commission Membership

- Filling of Commission Vacancies
 - Working Group Reports – Liaisons (Mitigation, Adaptation, Science and Communications)
 - Formal appointments of Working Group members and liaisons (status of list and appointment letters for the Chair to send)
 - Matching and Prioritization of Working Group Actions to Oct.1 (GGRA) and Nov. 15 (EO) deliverables
 - Working Group Production Schedules

11:00 – Goals and agenda for April 28 Full Commission Meeting – MDE

11:20 – Mitigation Workgroup Challenges

- Overview of MWG workplan and deadlines
- Ongoing MDE efforts on the GGRA Report due in October 2015
- Report on and Discussion of Opportunities for Support from Outside Expert Resources

11:50 – Wrap-Up/Summarize Action Items

12:00 - Adjourn





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Comparing the Maryland Climate Commission Act (MCCA) of 2015 to Executive Order 01.01.2014.14

	Executive Order (EO)	MCCA of 2015
Timing	<p>Took effect on November 19th, 2014. Replaced previous EO (01.01.2007.07) signed on April 20th of 2007.</p> <p>Ends when new Commission begins on or before June 2016.</p>	<p>Takes effect June 1, 2016, working groups must meet by October 1, 2016. Allows the Commission established by the EO to continue to meet and complete its tasks for 1 year after enactment of this law.</p>
Membership	<p>25 Members</p> <p>No mention of MACO, MML, Public Health, Philanthropic Members – asks for two local government reps, two from business, two from non profit and seven at large members appointed by the Governor.</p> <p>Terms are two year.</p>	<p>26 Members</p> <p>House Member, Member of the Senate, State Treasurer, MDE, AG, DNR, MDP, Schools, MDOT, DGS, MEA, UMCES, Critical Area Commission Chair, Farm Bureau, MACO, Maryland Municipal League, House Business Member, Senate Business Member, House Non-Profit Member, Senate Non-Profit Member, House Labor Union Member, Senate Manufacturing Member, House Philanthropic Member, Senate Philanthropic Member, Climate Expert from MD University, Public Health Expert.</p> <p>Terms are two years and should be staggered.</p>
Administrative Structure	<p>Commission supported by Workgroups – Members appointed by the Chair</p> <p>No Outreach Workgroup in EO</p>	<p>Same</p> <p>Mitigation, Adaptation, Science and Outreach Workgroups</p>
Reports and Due Dates	<p>November 15 of each year a summary report that addresses specific tasks</p>	<p>Same - Some changes in tasks</p> <p>New Commission (starts on June 1, 2016) submits first report in November 2016</p>
Other Major Deliverables	<p>Key state agencies report on assigned programs and progress</p>	<p>Key state agencies will provide annual reports on assigned programs</p>
Specific Tasks Added	<p>Adds 9 new tasks. See Item 1 below.</p>	<p>Includes 8 of the 9 new tasks in the EO and adds 4 additional tasks. See Item 2 below.</p>

* Not Already Part of Work Required to Implement the Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Act of 2009

Item 1 - Specific New Tasks from the Executive Order

The following is a list of new tasks assigned by the Executive Order that were not initially required by the GGRA Law:

- Development of broader public/ private/ state/ federal/ local partnerships
- Address challenges in low income and vulnerable communities
- The impacts on the state economy, revenue, and investment decisions
- Recommend short and long term strategies and initiatives to better mitigate the causes and address the consequences of climate change
- Deliver tools and assistance to local governments to support community-scale vulnerability assessments and the development and integration of specific strategies for enhancing resilience to the impacts of climate change into local plans and ordinances
- Develop annual performance benchmarks
- Develop a comprehensive action plan with five year benchmarks to meet a 80% by 2050 goal
- All agencies to integrate climate change in their planning, regulatory and fiscal programs
- DNR to issue Maryland Environmental Policy Act guidelines that require mitigation and adaptation climate change factors

Item 2 - Specific New Tasks from the MCCA of 2015

The following is a list of new tasks assigned by the Senate Bill that were not initially required by the GGRA Law or the Executive Order:

- Communicating with and educating citizens about the urgency of acting to reduce the impacts of climate change
- Assessing the needs for utilities and other public and private service providers throughout the state to adjust their operating practices and investment strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate change on their customers and the public
- Assessing the impacts that climate change might have on agriculture in the state
UMCES to establish science based sea level rise projections and update them every five year to include maps showing areas of greatest impact



The State of Maryland

Executive Department

SECOND PRINTING

EXECUTIVE ORDER

01.01.2014.14

(Rescinds Executive Order 01.01.2007.07)

Strengthening Climate Action in Maryland

WHEREAS, As reported by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in March 2014, the effects of climate change are already occurring on all continents and across the oceans, and numerous opportunities exist to respond to and mitigate associated risks;

WHEREAS, Human activities, notably the burning of fossil fuels, continue to contribute to the causes and consequences of climate change;

WHEREAS, Maryland has already experienced some effects of climate change, including sea level rise of more than one foot in the last century; increasing water temperatures within the Chesapeake Bay; more rain and flooding in the winter and spring, and less in the summer; and more water shortages;

WHEREAS, Recent reports by the United States Geological Survey, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the University of Maryland's Center for Environmental Science show the negative impact that climate change is having on water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and its aquatic life;

WHEREAS, Maryland's people, their property, natural environment, and public investments are extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including sea level rise, increased storm intensity, extreme droughts and heat waves, and increased wind and rainfall events;

WHEREAS, Recent actions demonstrate Maryland's strong commitment to addressing both the drivers and consequences of climate change:

- Passage of the Clean Cars Act (2007);
- Participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (2007);
- Establishment of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change (2007);
- Release of the Maryland Climate Action Plan (2008);
- Amendments to the Critical Area Act (2008);

- Amendments to the Critical Area Act (2008);
- Passage of the Living Shorelines Protection Act (2008);
- Passage of the EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act (2008);
- Passage of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act (2009);
- Issuance of Executive Order on Climate Change and “Coast Smart” Construction (2012);
- Passage of the Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act (2013);
- Passage of the Transportation Infrastructure Investment Act (2013);
- Final issuance of Maryland’s Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act Plan (2013);
- Launch of State Zero-Emission Vehicle Programs (2013); and
- Passage of the Coast Smart Council and Bay Acidification Task Force Legislation (2014);

WHEREAS, It is imperative that Maryland State Government, as well as local governments in Maryland, continue to lead by example in the scope and variety of services and activities that government provides and undertakes; and

WHEREAS, More must be done to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Maryland and prepare the State and its residents for the likely health, environmental, and socioeconomic consequences of climate change.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O’MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY RESCIND EXECUTIVE ORDER 01.01.2007.07 AND PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

A. **Commission Strengthened.** To continue to advise the Governor and General Assembly on matters related to climate change, the Maryland Commission on Climate Change (the Commission) is modified and reinforced as indicated below.

B. **Membership.** The Commission’s membership shall be expanded to extend the Commission’s reach and effectiveness. The Commission’s membership shall consist of no more than 25 members and include:

- (1) One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates;
 - (2) One member appointed by the President of the Senate;
 - (3) The Treasurer of the State of Maryland;
 - (4) The Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment;
 - (5) The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture;
 - (6) The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources;
 - (7) The Secretary of the Department of Planning;
 - (8) The State Superintendent of Schools;
 - (9) The Secretary of the Department of Transportation;
 - (10) The Secretary of the Department of General Services;
 - (11) The Director of the Maryland Energy Administration;
 - (12) The President of the University of Maryland's Center for Environmental Science;
 - (13) At least two representatives from local governments;
 - (14) At least two representatives from the business community;
 - (15) At least two representatives from non-profit organizations;
- and
- (16) No more than seven at large members appointed by the Governor.

C. Terms. Members appointed by the Governor shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor for renewable, two-year terms.

D. Chair. The Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment shall serve as Chair of the Commission.

E. Commission Tasks. The Commission shall:

(1) Strengthen and maintain existing State action plans to further mitigate the causes and drivers of climate change, and address (prepare for and adapt to) the consequences of climate change.

(2) Reestablish Scientific and Technical, Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Mitigation, and Adaptation and Response Working Groups, and create other working groups as needed.

(3) Prioritize working group actions, including:

(a) Developing broader public/private and federal/State/local partnerships to better mitigate the causes and address the consequences of climate change, and to better communicate with and educate citizens about the urgency of the challenge and options to address it;

(b) Maintaining an inventory of Maryland's GHG emission sources and sinks;

(c) Addressing the challenge that low income and otherwise vulnerable communities will likely be disproportionately impacted by climate change;

(d) Assessing the impacts that climate change will likely have on the State's economy, revenues, and investment decisions;

(e) Recommending short and longer-term strategies and initiatives to better mitigate the causes and address the consequences of climate change;

(f) Delivering tools and assistance to local governments to support community-scale climate vulnerability assessments and the development and integration of specific strategies for enhancing resilience to the impacts of climate change into local plans and ordinances;

(g) Establishing comprehensive and accountable, annual working group work plans that set annual goals and performance benchmarks, and prioritize new and existing climate change mitigation and adaptation actions and initiatives;

(h) Maintaining a comprehensive action plan, with five year benchmarks, to achieve science-based reductions in Maryland's GHG emissions of 80% of 2006 levels by 2050; and

(i) Convening regular working group and full Commission meetings to ensure that sufficient progress is being made across all sectors and communities in Maryland.

(4) Consider other related matters as the Commission deems necessary.

F. Appointments. The Chair of the Commission shall appoint working group and sub-committee members who represent both public and private interests in climate change, including but not limited to: academic institutions, renewable and traditional energy providers, environmental organizations, government representatives, labor organizations, and business interests. Working group and subcommittee members shall serve at the pleasure of the Commission Chair.

G. Milestones.

(1) Within 30 days of the effective date of this Executive Order, the Commission shall be convened and working group members shall be appointed.

(2) Within 60 days of the effective date of this Executive Order, working groups shall meet and establish individual work plans.

H. Staff Coordination. The Departments of the Environment (MDE) and Natural Resources (DNR) shall jointly staff the Commission in coordination with other State agencies as directed by the Chair.

I. Enhanced State Action. To address concerns related to climate change:

(1) All State agencies shall review State planning, regulatory and fiscal programs to identify and recommend actions to more fully integrate the consideration of Maryland's GHG reduction goal and the impacts of climate change; including sea level rise, increased precipitation and temperature, and extreme weather. State agencies shall also identify and recommend specific policy, planning, regulatory and fiscal changes for existing programs that do not currently support the State's GHG reduction efforts or address climate change impacts.

(2) GHG Reduction Plan agencies shall submit an annual program implementation status report to Maryland's Commission on Climate Change and to the Governor, through MDE. The annual status report should include: program descriptions and objectives; implementation milestones; enhancement opportunities; funding or other

challenges; and any other information that the reporting agency considers relevant. Status reports should include estimated GHG emission reductions, by program, for the prior calendar year.

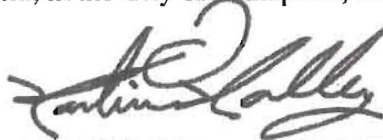
(3) DNR shall issue Maryland Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) guidelines that require consideration of climate change factors, including both mitigation and adaptation.

(4) The Department of Information Technology (DoIT) shall create an online climate data and information portal to increase public access to the latest climate science, projections and technical resources.

(5) StateStat shall continue to monitor and further drive State agencies' progress toward climate change mitigation and reduction goals through quarterly ClimateStat sessions.

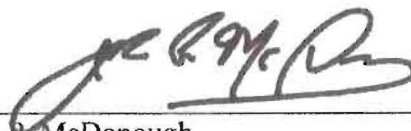
J. Reporting. Maryland's Commission on Climate Change shall report to the Governor and General Assembly on or before November 15 of each year, beginning with November 15, 2015, on the status of the State's efforts to address the causes and consequences of climate change, including future plans and recommendations for legislation, if any, for consideration by the General Assembly.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis, this 19th Day of November, 2014.



Martin O'Malley
Governor

ATTEST:



John P. McDonough
Secretary of State

HOUSE BILL 514

M3

(5lr1523)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Environment and Transportation/Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs* —

Introduced by **Delegates Stein, B. Barnes, Frush, Healey, Hettleman, Morhaim, and S. Robinson**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Commission on Climate Change**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission on Climate Change in the Department of
4 the Environment to advise the Governor and General Assembly on ways to mitigate
5 the causes of, prepare for, and adapt to the consequences of climate change;
6 establishing the membership of the Commission; ~~requiring certain members to serve~~
7 ~~as chair and vice chair of the Commission;~~ providing for the terms of *an appointed*
8 member of the Commission; authorizing the Governor to remove a member of the
9 Commission under certain circumstances; prohibiting a member of the Commission
10 from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing a member to be reimbursed for
11 certain expenses; requiring the Commission to establish certain working groups;
12 requiring the Chair of the Commission to appoint working group members who
13 represent certain public and private interests; requiring the Commission to prioritize
14 certain working group actions; requiring the Commission, on or before a certain date

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber / conference committee amendments.



1 each year, to report to the Governor and General Assembly; requiring each State
 2 agency to complete a certain review in accordance with certain requirements;
 3 requiring each State agency to identify and recommend certain changes to certain
 4 programs under certain circumstances; requiring certain State agencies to report
 5 annually to the Governor and General Assembly on the status of certain programs;
 6 requiring the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science to establish
 7 and update certain sea level rise projections; requiring the sea level rise projections
 8 to include certain maps and to be made publicly available on the Internet; providing
 9 for the construction of this Act; establishing the intent of the General Assembly;
 10 requiring the Commission members and working group members to be appointed
 11 and the Commission to be convened ~~and the working group members to be appointed~~
 12 on or before a certain date; providing that nothing in this Act shall preclude the
 13 appointment of a certain member to the Commission; requiring each working group
 14 to meet and establish a work plan on or before a certain date; and generally relating
 15 to the Maryland Commission on Climate Change.

16 BY adding to
 17 Article – Environment
 18 Section 2–1301 through 2–1306 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 13. Maryland
 19 Commission on Climate Change”
 20 Annotated Code of Maryland
 21 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

22 Preamble

23 WHEREAS, As reported by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate
 24 Change (IPCC) in March 2014, the effects of climate change are already occurring on all
 25 continents and across the oceans, and numerous opportunities exist to respond to and
 26 mitigate associated risks; and

27 WHEREAS, Maryland has already experienced some effects of climate change,
 28 including sea level rise of more than 1 foot in the last century, increasing water
 29 temperatures in the Chesapeake Bay, more rain and flooding in the winter and spring, and
 30 less in the summer; and

31 WHEREAS, Maryland has demonstrated its strong commitment to addressing the
 32 drivers and consequences of climate change by passing several laws, including the Healthy
 33 Air Act, the Maryland Clean Cars Act of 2007, the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction
 34 Act of 2009, the Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act of 2013, and the Coast Smart Council;
 35 and

36 WHEREAS, Although the Maryland Commission on Climate Change was created by
 37 Executive Order 01.01.2007.07 in 2007, and then strengthened by Executive Order
 38 01.01.2014.14 in 2014, there is not a statutory body in the State whose sole purpose is to
 39 address climate change impacts and make recommendations to the Governor and General
 40 Assembly; now, therefore,

1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
2 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

3 Article - Environment

4 SUBTITLE 13. MARYLAND COMMISSION ON CLIMATE CHANGE.

5 2-1301.

6 (A) THERE IS A COMMISSION ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE DEPARTMENT
7 TO ADVISE THE GOVERNOR AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON WAYS TO MITIGATE THE
8 CAUSES OF, PREPARE FOR, AND ADAPT TO THE CONSEQUENCES OF CLIMATE
9 CHANGE.

10 (B) THE DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
11 SHALL JOINTLY STAFF THE COMMISSION.

12 2-1302.

13 (A) THE COMMISSION'S MEMBERSHIP SHALL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING
14 ~~25~~ MEMBERS:

15 (1) ONE MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE
16 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

17 (2) ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT
18 OF THE SENATE;

19 (3) THE STATE TREASURER, OR THE STATE TREASURER'S
20 DESIGNEE;

21 (4) THE SECRETARY OF THE ENVIRONMENT, OR THE SECRETARY'S
22 DESIGNEE;

23 (5) THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, OR THE SECRETARY'S
24 DESIGNEE;

25 (6) THE SECRETARY OF NATURAL RESOURCES, OR THE
26 SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

27 (7) THE SECRETARY OF PLANNING, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

28 (8) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, OR THE STATE
29 SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE;

1 (9) THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, OR THE SECRETARY'S
2 DESIGNEE;

3 (10) THE SECRETARY OF GENERAL SERVICES, OR THE SECRETARY'S
4 DESIGNEE;

5 (11) THE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION,
6 OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;

7 (12) THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER
8 FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, OR THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE;

9 (13) THE CHAIR OF THE CRITICAL AREA COMMISSION FOR THE
10 CHESAPEAKE AND ATLANTIC COASTAL BAYS, OR THE CHAIR'S DESIGNEE;

11 (14) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE FARM BUREAU REPRESENTING
12 THE AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY;

13 ~~(13)~~ (15) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE ~~PRESIDENT OF THE~~
14 ~~SENATE~~ MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES AND ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY
15 ~~THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES~~ MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE TO
16 REPRESENT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS;

17 ~~(14)~~ (16) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE
18 SENATE AND ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
19 DELEGATES TO REPRESENT THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY;

20 ~~(15)~~ (17) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE
21 SENATE AND ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
22 DELEGATES TO REPRESENT ENVIRONMENTAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS;

23 ~~(16)~~ THREE REPRESENTATIVES OF PRIVATE PHILANTHROPIC
24 ORGANIZATIONS, ONE EACH APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, PRESIDENT OF THE
25 SENATE, AND SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES;

26 (18) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
27 AND ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE TO REPRESENT
28 ORGANIZED LABOR ~~IN~~, ONE OF WHOM SHALL REPRESENT THE BUILDING OR
29 CONSTRUCTION TRADES AND ONE OF WHOM SHALL REPRESENT THE
30 MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY;

31 (19) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
32 AND ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE TO REPRESENT
33 PHILANTHROPIC ORGANIZATIONS;

1 ~~(17)~~ **(20)** ONE CLIMATE CHANGE EXPERT APPOINTED BY THE
2 GOVERNOR REPRESENTING A UNIVERSITY LOCATED IN MARYLAND; AND

3 ~~(18)~~ **(21)** ONE PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERT APPOINTED BY THE
4 GOVERNOR REPRESENTING A UNIVERSITY LOCATED IN MARYLAND; .

5 ~~(19)~~ ~~ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF ORGANIZED LABOR APPOINTED BY THE~~
6 ~~GOVERNOR; AND~~

7 ~~(20)~~ ~~ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY~~
8 ~~APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.~~

9 **(B)** ~~(1)~~ THE SECRETARY OF THE ENVIRONMENT OR THE SECRETARY'S
10 DESIGNEE SHALL CHAIR THE COMMISSION.

11 ~~(2)~~ ~~THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT ONE BUSINESS~~
12 ~~REPRESENTATIVE AND ONE NONPROFIT REPRESENTATIVE FROM AMONG THE~~
13 ~~COMMISSION MEMBERS TO SERVE AS VICE CHAIRS OF THE COMMISSION.~~

14 **(C)** **(1)** SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH **(2)** OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE TERM OF
15 ~~A AN APPOINTED~~ MEMBER ~~APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, PRESIDENT OF THE~~
16 ~~SENATE, OR SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES~~ IS 2 YEARS.

17 **(2)** THE GOVERNOR, PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, AND SPEAKER OF
18 THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES SHALL STAGGER THE TERMS OF THE INITIAL
19 APPOINTED MEMBERS.

20 **(3)** AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL
21 A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

22 **(4)** A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES
23 ONLY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THAT TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED
24 AND QUALIFIES.

25 **(5)** THE GOVERNOR MAY REMOVE AN APPOINTED MEMBER FOR
26 INCOMPETENCE, MISCONDUCT, OR FAILURE TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF THE
27 POSITION.

28 **(D)** A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION,
29 BUT IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE STANDARD
30 STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

1 **(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH:**

2 **(1) A SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP;**

3 **(2) A GREENHOUSE GAS MITIGATION WORKING GROUP;**

4 **(3) AN ADAPTATION AND RESPONSE WORKING GROUP; AND**

5 **(4) AN EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION, AND OUTREACH WORKING**
6 **GROUP.**

7 **(B) THE COMMISSION MAY ESTABLISH OTHER WORKING GROUPS AS**
8 **NEEDED.**

9 **(C) THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION SHALL APPOINT WORKING GROUP**
10 **MEMBERS WHO REPRESENT BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INTERESTS IN CLIMATE**
11 **CHANGE, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF:**

12 **(1) ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS;**

13 **(2) RENEWABLE AND TRADITIONAL ENERGY PROVIDERS;**

14 **(3) ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS;**

15 **(4) GOVERNMENT AGENCIES;**

16 **(5) LABOR ORGANIZATIONS; AND**

17 **(6) BUSINESS INTERESTS, INCLUDING THE INSURANCE ~~INDUSTRY~~**
18 **AND REAL ESTATE INDUSTRIES.**

19 **(D) THE COMMISSION SHALL PRIORITIZE WORKING GROUP ACTIONS,**
20 **INCLUDING:**

21 **(1) STRENGTHENING AND MAINTAINING EXISTING STATE CLIMATE**
22 **ACTION PLANS;**

23 **(2) DEVELOPING BROAD PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS WITH**
24 **LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL AGENCIES;**

25 **(3) COMMUNICATING WITH AND EDUCATING CITIZENS ABOUT THE**
26 **URGENCY OF ACTING TO REDUCE THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE;**

1 (4) MAINTAINING AN INVENTORY OF MARYLAND'S GREENHOUSE GAS
2 EMISSIONS SOURCES AND CARBON SINKS;

3 (5) ADDRESSING ANY DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE
4 CHANGE ON LOW-INCOME AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES;

5 (6) ASSESSING THE IMPACTS THAT CLIMATE CHANGE MAY HAVE ON
6 THE STATE'S ECONOMY, REVENUES, AND INVESTMENT DECISIONS;

7 (7) ASSESSING THE NEEDS FOR UTILITIES AND OTHER PUBLIC AND
8 PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE TO ADJUST THEIR
9 OPERATING PRACTICES AND INVESTMENT STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE THE IMPACTS
10 OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THEIR CUSTOMERS AND THE PUBLIC;

11 ~~(7)~~ (8) ASSESSING THE IMPACTS THAT CLIMATE CHANGE MAY
12 HAVE ON AGRICULTURE IN THE STATE;

13 ~~(8)~~ (9) RECOMMENDING SHORT- AND LONG-TERM STRATEGIES
14 AND INITIATIVES TO BETTER MITIGATE, PREPARE FOR, AND ADAPT TO THE
15 CONSEQUENCES OF CLIMATE CHANGE;

16 ~~(9)~~ (10) ASSISTING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN SUPPORTING
17 COMMUNITY-SCALE CLIMATE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS AND THE
18 DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION OF SPECIFIC STRATEGIES INTO LOCAL PLANS
19 AND ORDINANCES;

20 ~~(10)~~ (11) ESTABLISHING COMPREHENSIVE AND ACCOUNTABLE
21 ANNUAL WORKING GROUP WORK PLANS THAT SET ANNUAL GOALS AND
22 PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS AND PRIORITIZE NEW AND EXISTING CLIMATE
23 CHANGE MITIGATION AND PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS AND INITIATIVES;

24 ~~(11)~~ (12) MAINTAINING A COMPREHENSIVE ACTION PLAN, WITH
25 5-YEAR BENCHMARKS, TO ACHIEVE SCIENCE-BASED REDUCTIONS IN MARYLAND'S
26 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS ~~OF 80% OF 2006 LEVELS BY 2050;~~

27 ~~(12)~~ (13) CONVENING REGULAR WORKING GROUP AND FULL
28 COMMISSION MEETINGS TO ENSURE THAT SUFFICIENT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE
29 ACROSS ALL SECTORS AND COMMUNITIES IN MARYLAND; AND

30 ~~(13)~~ (14) CONSIDERING OTHER RELATED MATTERS AS THE
31 COMMISSION DETERMINES TO BE NECESSARY.

1 **ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15 OF EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL**
2 **REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH §**
3 **2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE STATUS OF THE STATE'S**
4 **EFFORTS TO MITIGATE THE CAUSES OF, PREPARE FOR, AND ADAPT TO THE**
5 **CONSEQUENCES OF CLIMATE CHANGE, INCLUDING FUTURE PLANS AND**
6 **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION, IF ANY, TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE**
7 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

8 **2-1305.**

9 **(A) (1) EACH STATE AGENCY SHALL REVIEW ITS PLANNING,**
10 **REGULATORY, AND FISCAL PROGRAMS TO IDENTIFY AND RECOMMEND ACTIONS TO**
11 **MORE FULLY INTEGRATE THE CONSIDERATION OF MARYLAND'S GREENHOUSE GAS**
12 **REDUCTION GOAL AND THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE.**

13 **(2) THE REVIEW SHALL INCLUDE THE CONSIDERATION OF:**

14 **(I) SEA LEVEL RISE;**

15 **(II) STORM SURGES AND FLOODING;**

16 **(III) INCREASED PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE; AND**

17 **(IV) EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS.**

18 **(B) EACH STATE AGENCY SHALL IDENTIFY AND RECOMMEND SPECIFIC**
19 **POLICY, PLANNING, REGULATORY, AND FISCAL CHANGES TO EXISTING PROGRAMS**
20 **THAT DO NOT CURRENTLY SUPPORT THE STATE'S GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION**
21 **EFFORTS OR ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE.**

22 **(C) (1) THE FOLLOWING STATE AGENCIES SHALL REPORT ANNUALLY ON**
23 **THE STATUS OF PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT THE STATE'S GREENHOUSE GAS**
24 **REDUCTION EFFORTS OR ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH §**
25 **2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE COMMISSION AND THE**
26 **GOVERNOR:**

27 **(I) THE DEPARTMENT;**

28 **(II) THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE;**

29 **(III) THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES;**

30 **(IV) THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY**
31 **DEVELOPMENT;**

- 1 (V) THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES;
2 (VI) THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING;
3 (VII) THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION;
4 (VIII) THE MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION;
5 (IX) THE MARYLAND INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION;
6 (X) THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION; AND
7 (XI) THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR
8 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE.

9 (2) THE REPORT REQUIRED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION
10 SHALL INCLUDE:

- 11 (I) PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS AND OBJECTIVES;
12 (II) IMPLEMENTATION MILESTONES, WHETHER OR NOT THEY
13 HAVE BEEN MET;
14 (III) ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES;
15 (IV) FUNDING;
16 (V) CHALLENGES;
17 (VI) ESTIMATED GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS, BY
18 PROGRAM, FOR THE PRIOR CALENDAR YEAR; AND
19 (VII) ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT THE AGENCY CONSIDERS
20 RELEVANT.

21 2-1306.

22 (A) THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
23 SCIENCE SHALL ESTABLISH SCIENCE-BASED SEA LEVEL RISE PROJECTIONS FOR
24 MARYLAND'S COASTAL AREAS AND UPDATE THEM AT LEAST EVERY 5 YEARS.

1 **(B) THE SCIENCE-BASED SEA LEVEL RISE PROJECTIONS SHALL INCLUDE**
 2 **MAPS THAT INDICATE THE AREAS OF THE STATE THAT MAY BE MOST AFFECTED BY**
 3 **STORM SURGES, FLOODING, AND EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS.**

4 **(C) THE SCIENCE-BASED SEA LEVEL RISE PROJECTIONS REQUIRED UNDER**
 5 **THIS SECTION SHALL BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET.**

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, before June 1, 2016, nothing
 7 in this Act shall be construed to affect the current membership and duties of the Maryland
 8 Commission on Climate Change, established by Executive Order 01.01.2014.14. It is the
 9 intent of the General Assembly that the Maryland Commission on Climate Change,
 10 established by Executive Order 01.01.2014.14, shall continue to meet and complete its tasks
 11 for 1 year following the enactment of this Act and until members are appointed to the
 12 Maryland Commission on Climate Change, established by this Act, in accordance with
 13 Section 3 of this Act.

14 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before July 1, 2016, the
 15 members and working group members of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change,
 16 established in accordance with Section 1 of this Act, shall be appointed and a meeting shall
 17 be convened. Nothing in this Act shall preclude the appointment of a member to the
 18 Maryland Commission on Climate Change, established in accordance with this Act, who
 19 served as a member of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change, established by
 20 Executive Order 01.01.2014.14.

21 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before October 1, 2016,
 22 each working group established by Section 1 of this Act shall meet and establish a work
 23 plan.

24 ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on or before September 1,~~
 25 ~~2015, the Commission shall be convened and working group members shall be appointed.~~
 26 ~~On or before October 1, 2015, each working group shall meet and establish a work plan.~~

27 ~~SECTION 3.~~ SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 28 June 1, 2015.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

1800 Washington Boulevard • Baltimore MD 21230

410-537-3000 • 1-800-633-6101 • www.mde.maryland.gov

Larry Hogan
Governor

Ben Grumbles
Secretary

Boyd Rutherford
Lieutenant Governor

Mitigation Working Group Membership

Co-Chairs	
Michael Powell	Gordon Feinblatt LLC
Stuart Clark	Town Creek Foundation
Tad Aburn (Working Group Lead)	MDE
Private Sector Representatives	
Anne Linder	Exelon
Mike Remsberg	Trinity Consultants
R. Daniel Wallace	Bith Energy
Melanie Santiago-Mosier	Sun Edison
Drew Cobbs	API
Tom Ballentine	NAIOP – Real Estate Development
Tom Dennison	SMECO
Tom Weissinger	Raven Power
Public Sector Representatives	
Jana Davis	Chesapeake Bay Trust
Mike Tidwell	Chesapeake Climate Action Network
Gerrit Knaap	National Center for Smart Growth
Arjun Makhijani	Institute for Energy and Environmental Research
Joe Uehlein	Labor Network for Sustainability
Anya Schoolman	Community Power Network
Erik Meyers	The Conservation Fund
Rebecca Ruggles	Maryland Environmental Health Network
Other Representatives	
Chuck Fry	Maryland Farm Bureau
Ben Hobbs	Johns Hopkins University - Economist
Brad Karbowski	United Association of Plumbers and Fitters
Jim Strong	United Steelworkers
Leslie Knapp	Maryland Association of Counties
TBD	Maryland Municipal League
Government Members	
Don Halligan	MDOT
Kevin Lucas	MEA
Zoe Johnson	DNR



Steering Committee	
Michael Powell	Gordon Feinblatt LLC
Stuart Clarke	Town Creek Foundation
George Aburn	MDE
Don Halligan	MDOT
Kevin Lucas	MEA

Mitigation Working Group Technical Experts

Technical Advisors	
Peter Doo	Green Building Council
Joanne Throwe	University of Maryland Finance Center
Marissa Paslick	PSC
Alice Kennedy	Baltimore Office of Sustainability
Jason Dubow	MDP
Susan Payne	MDA
Ken Holt Designee	MD Housing
Lauren Buckler	DGS
Debbie Drankiewicz	MSDE
Steve Walz	MWCOG
Todd Lang	BMC
Howard Simons	MDOT
Luke Wisniewski	MDE
Kristen Ahearn	MEA
TBD	DBED





MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Ben Grumbles
Secretary

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lieutenant Governor

April XX, 2015

All Secretaries,

Now that the legislative session has concluded for 2015 it is time to act with vigor on those decisions. During my time here at MDE it has been my pleasure to become better acquainted with each of you, and I ask for your assistance in achieving the tasks prioritized by Governor Hogan.

Senate Bill 258 established the Maryland Climate Change Commission (MCCC) as statute after Executive Order 01.01.2014.14 revamped the MCCC late in 2014. Since the signing of the Executive Order, the MCCC has convened a small number of times and several working groups have been formed to achieve the goals set forth before the MCCC. The Mitigation Working Group, Adaptation Working Group, Science and Technology Working Group, and Education, Communication, and Outreach Working Group are all presently convening to address the multiple areas of concern of the MCCC. As the chair of the MCCC, I encourage and thank you for your continued participation in each of these working groups, but I must emphasize how integral your assistance is in the successful completion of the tasks assigned to the Mitigation Working Group. This group will serve to assist with the development of both the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act 2015 progress report to the Governor and General Assembly and the reports required under the Executive Order. I ask that you try to attend these meetings as scheduled, as they are vital to the climate change planning process. As key implementing agencies, there are numerous measures and programs under your direction that are intrinsic parts of Maryland's climate plan.

As the Mitigation Working Group begins to meet on a routine schedule, I ask that you appoint appropriate level staff to represent your agency at those meetings. After lengthy discussion and at the request of the Maryland Climate Change Commission, I have been urged to ask for Secretary level participation at these meetings. Significant decisions on the implementation of climate measures, goal setting, progress reporting, and communication on climate change, economics, and employment will be required, and MDE will be sending upper management staff to attend. The first goal of the Mitigation Working Group will be to examine progress on the measures adopted in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act 2012 Plan. As such, I ask that you direct your staff to present accurate, useful, timely, defensible, and relevant progress reports when asked by the group. This information is necessary for MDE to prepare the progress reports required by the Executive Order and to show the Governor and the citizens of Maryland exact progress with regards to the 2020 emission goal.

I would like to thank you and your staff for all of your past service related to the Maryland Climate Change Commission and the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act. I am certain that with your continued

assistance and cooperation we will complete the tasks to which we were appointed in a timely and successful manner.

Sincerely,



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Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd Rutherford
Lieutenant Governor

Ben Grumbles
Secretary

April 23, 2015

Mr. Tom Ballentine
NAIOP-Real Estate Development Association
P.O. Box 16280
Baltimore, MD 21210

Dear Mr. Tom Ballentine:

With great confidence in your dedication to public service, it is my pleasure to appoint you a member of the Mitigation Working Group of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change. Thank you for making this strong commitment to serve in the best interests of our citizens. With your assistance and support, I know we will succeed in our goal to make a positive difference for all Marylanders.

Sincerely,

Ben Grumbles
Secretary





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Lieutenant Governor

Ben Grumbles
Secretary

April 23, 2015

Mr. Stuart Clarke
Town Creek Foundation
121 N. West Street
Easton, MD 21601

Dear Mr. Stuart Clarke:

With great confidence in your dedication to public service, it is my pleasure to appoint you Co-chair of the Mitigation Working Group of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change. Thank you for making this strong commitment to serve in the best interests of our citizens. With your assistance and support, I know we will succeed in our goal to make a positive difference for all Marylanders.

Sincerely,

Ben Grumbles
Secretary





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Ben Grumbles
Secretary

April 23, 2015

Ms. Kristen Ahearn
Maryland Energy Administration
60 West Street
Suite 300
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Ms. Kristen Ahearn:

With great confidence in your dedication to public service, it is my pleasure to inform you that you have been identified as a Technical Expert to Mitigation Working Group (MWG) of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change. Given this area of expertise, you may be called upon by the Co-chairs, Michael Powell and/or Stuart Clark, to assist in the MWG's efforts. Thank you for making this strong commitment to serve in the best interests of our citizens. With your assistance and support, I know we will succeed in our goal to make a positive difference for all Marylanders. Participation in workgroup meetings are always welcomed.

Sincerely,

Ben Grumbles
Secretary





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MWG Meeting and Production Schedule

May 6, 2015 – MWG meeting

Meeting Goal:

Overview of process, expectations of MWG members, summary of expected progress from State agencies and contractors supporting MWG efforts*, overview of programs assigned to MDE (standard format briefing).

May 21, 2015 – MWG meeting

Meeting Goal:

Overview of programs assigned to MEA and DNR (standard format briefing), preliminary contractor “preview” of reports on the framework for the economic messaging and cost of inaction reports, discuss the EO report format and public process.

June 4, 2015 – MWG meeting

Meeting Goal:

Overview of programs assigned to MDOT (standard format briefing), overview of programs assigned to other MD agencies, preliminary contractor “preview” of reports on “beyond 2020” goal setting (2035/2050/ five year milestones, etc.) and environmental justice and climate change.

June 15, 2015 Major Deliverable Due Date – All state agency GGRA program data/ advanced 2020 emission reduction estimates due to MDE

June 25 – MWG Meeting

Meeting Goal:

Focus on contractor reports on state of the science and goal setting, the cost of inaction and environmental justice and climate change. This meeting should be a joint meeting with the SWG.

July 16 – MWG Meeting

Meeting Goal:

Focus on RESI economic analyses, other contractor supported efforts on economic messaging and blending cost of inaction analyses with traditional economic analysis



August 1, 2015 Major Deliverable Due Date – Draft contractor reports due: Cost of Inaction, State of the Science Analysis, Economic Messaging, Environmental Justice, RESI economic analyses.

August 15, 2015 – MWG Meeting

Meeting Goal:

Draft reports (4 contractor reports, draft reports for GGRA [MDE lead] and EO [MDE and MWG contractor support]), MWG establishes meeting schedule to finalize reports.

September 1, 2015 Major Deliverable Due Date – Comments due on all the draft reports

October 1, 2015 Major Deliverable Due Date – Submission of GGRA Report to GOV/GA

November 1, 2015 – Commission Meeting to Approve EO Report

November 15, 2015 Major Deliverable Due Date – Submission of final EO Report

**There are several contractor efforts that are being considered as part of the MWG and Climate Commission efforts. These contractor efforts are a critical piece of the MWG effort.*





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Maryland Commission on Climate Change

Commission Meeting #3 April 28, 2:00 – Baltimore Aquarium

Draft Agenda

- 2:00 – Welcome to the Aquarium
Introductions/Goals for Meeting – Chair and Co-Chairs
- 2:20 – Overview of Commission Law - MDE
- Relationship with the EO that stays in effect until June 2016
- 2:30 – Commission Membership - Filling of Commission Vacancies
- New Mitigation Working Group Liaisons and adding Michael Powell to the full Commission
- 2:40 – Working Group Reports – Liaisons (Mitigation, Adaptation, Science and Communications)
- Formal appointments of Working Group members and liaisons (signed letters will be distributed from Secretary Grumbles to the liaisons/ chairs of the working groups)
 - Working Group Production Schedules
- 3:10 – Recommendations for Approval by the Commission
- Structure of the November Report
 - Management of Outside Resources
- 3:25 – Schedule of Commission Meetings/ Goals of Each Meeting – Co-Chairs of Commission
- 3:40 – Use of Outside Resources
- Briefing on outside resource opportunity
 - Key Products Needed (See Handout)
 - Role of Steering Committee in Defining Deliverables and Managing Products Generated With Outside Resources
 - Compressed Schedule - Timing for Deliverables
- 3:55 – Wrap-Up/Summarize Action Items
- 4:00 – Adjourn



Maryland Climate Change Commission

Steering Committee Meeting - April 23, 2015

List of Outside Resource Needs/Assignments

Mitigation Workgroup Priorities

Economic Messaging/ Review of Economic and Jobs Analysis:

- MWG and Commission Steering Committee has an interest in ensuring that the work from Towson University is reviewed by another institution or group and economic messaging is addressed.

Costs of Inaction Update:

- The MWG is interesting in making sure the cost of inaction from not addressing climate change is updated and addressed in the fall 2015 reports (Commission and Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Act reports).

Socioeconomic Issues/ Environmental Justice:

- The MWG is interested in ensuring that environmental justice issues are formally addressed in the mitigation process and the fall 2015 reports.

State of the Science:

- The MWG is interested in making certain that the most up to date climate science is used to develop the 2015 reports and any Commission recommendations on future goals.

Other Needs

The following is a list of other items listed in the Executive Order or the Maryland Climate Change Commission Act of 2015 that would also benefit from support from outside resources. These are items that State agencies do not have the resources to fully develop at this time:

- Development of broader public/ private/ state/ federal/ local partnerships
- Address challenges in low income and vulnerable communities
- The impacts on the state economy, revenue, and investment decisions
- Recommend short and long term strategies and initiatives to better mitigate the causes and address the consequences of climate change

- Deliver tools and assistance to local governments to support community-scale vulnerability assessments and the development and integration of specific strategies for enhancing resilience to the impacts of climate change into local plans and ordinances
- Develop annual performance benchmarks
- Develop a comprehensive action plan with five year benchmarks to meet a 80% by 2050 goal
- All agencies to integrate climate change in their planning, regulatory and fiscal programs
- DNR to issue Maryland Environmental Policy Act guidelines that require mitigation and adaptation climate change factors
- Communicating with and educating citizens about the urgency of acting to reduce the impacts of climate change
- Assessing the needs for utilities and other public and private service providers throughout the state to adjust their operating practices and investment strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate change on their customers and the public
- Assessing the impacts that climate change might have on agriculture in the state
- Establish science based sea level rise projections and update them every five year to include maps showing areas of greatest impact

Maryland Commission on Climate Change

Steering Committee Meeting – April 23, 2015

Potential Action Items

These action items (if agreed upon) would be forwarded to the full Commission for action at their April 28, 2015 meeting.

1. Accept recommendation from previously assigned liaisons to the Mitigation Working Group (Lynn Heller and Mike Tidwell) to make Stuart Clarke and Mike Powell the new liaisons/co-chairs of that workgroup.
2. Add Mike Powell to the full Commission to fill one of the “at large” vacancies that currently exists. This is linked to the above action.
3. Forward recommendation to the full Commission on the report format for the Commission’s November report. This report format was discussed and agreed upon during the last meeting of the Steering Committee. (See attached)

Key Questions to be Asked and Answered

For the purposes of generating discussion, I would suggest that there are four key questions that need to be asked and answered in order for us to provide a comprehensive picture of the 'status of the State's efforts to address the causes and consequences of climate change':

1. Where are we relative to where we are required to be with regards to:
 - a. Actual to budgeted emissions reductions;
 - b. Actual to budgeted pace of emissions reductions;
 - c. Actual to budgeted emissions reduction program implementation;
 - d. Actual to budgeted adaptation implementation.
2. What are the economic and social costs and benefits associated with our efforts to address the causes and consequences of climate change, and how are those costs and benefits distributed across Maryland's population?
 - a. What are the avoided economic and social costs associated with the State's efforts to address the causes and consequences of climate change? How would these costs be distributed across Maryland's population?
 - b. What are the realized economic and social costs associated with the State's efforts to address the causes and consequences of climate change? How are these costs distributed across Maryland's population?
 - c. What are the economic and social benefits associated with the State's efforts to address the causes and consequences of climate change? How are these benefits distributed across Maryland's population?
3. Are there exogenous factors (e.g. federal and/or regional policy, scientific or technological advances, market forces, etc.) that suggest the need for revisions to the GHG reduction goal and/or the GHG reduction plan?
4. How should the GHG reduction goal and/or plan and our adaptation efforts be revised or improved in light of the pace of our progress, the amount and distribution of economic and social costs and benefits, and relevant exogenous developments since its adoption?