



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING MINUTES

COMMUNITY COLLEGE WORKFORCE ALLIANCE, J. SARGEANT REYNOLDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

1651 E. PARHAM RD., RICHMOND, VA 23228

JANUARY 29, 2025, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Elizabeth Willoughby, Dominion Energy

Laura Rose, Old Dominion Electric Cooperative

Nikki Rovner, The Nature Conservancy

Robert Crockett, Transco Williams

Justin Curtis, Virginia Association of Municipal Wastewater Agencies

Rebecca Hui, Virginia Energy Efficiency Council Construction Alliance

Robert Gray, Virginia Manufacturers

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Emily Domenech, Boundary Stone Partners

Tyson Utt, CEP Solar

Trieste Lockwood (substitute for Robin Dutta), Chesapeake Solar/Storage Association

Carrie Hearne, Commission for Electric Utility Regulation

Kate Smiley, Data Center Coalition
Andrew Clark, Home Builders Association of Virginia

Melissa Ehrenreich, Indigenous Conservation Council

Brad Copenhaver, Virginia Agribusiness Council

Joe Lerch, Virginia Association of Counties

Alec Brebner, Virginia Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations

David Blount, Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions

Justin Curtis, Virginia Association of Municipal Wastewater Agencies	Karen Campblin, Virginia NAACP/Virginia Council on Environmental Justice
Keith Martin, Virginia Chamber of Commerce	Morgan Whayland, Virginia Natural Gas
Alleyn Harned, Virginia Clean Cities	Dylan Bishop, Virginia Oil and Gas Association
Bekah Kendrick, Virginia Community Voice	Daniel Baxter, Virginia Recycling Association
Lillian Anderson, Virginia Conservation Network	Mark Widdowson, Virginia Tech
Jake Tabor, Virginia Farm Bureau Federation	Gordon Dixon, Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance
Kyle Shreve, Virginia Forestry Association	Tad Phillips, Virginia Waste Industries Association
Mitchell Smiley, Virginia Municipal League	Sid Mitra, William and Mary/VMS

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY:

Jonathan Rak, Chief Policy Advisor	Ava Lovain, Air Division
Michael Dowd, Air Division	Julia Wack, Air Division
Thomas Ballou, Air Division	Allyson Frantz, Air Division
Angela Conroy, Air Division	Danielle Simms, Environmental Justice
Karen Sabasteanski, Air Division	

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Deb Harris, Vice President, Climate Change and Sustainability, ICF

Fiona Wissell, Managing Consultant, Decarbonization, ICF

Yi Xu, Energy Markets Manager, ICF

MEETING PURPOSE:

The purpose of this group is to provide stakeholder input as DEQ develops recommendations for the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) phase of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) planning process. This group includes a diverse range of perspectives potentially affected by this program. Each group member will have the opportunity to provide information and comment on what should be included in the draft CCAP.

The role of the group is **advisory**. The group's function is to informally discuss and make recommendations on assumptions, approaches, and input to the CCAP planning process. DEQ is not obligated to accept any group recommendations. Other opportunities for input will be provided in the future to the public.

After the group completes its work, any recommendations will be considered before proceeding with the next steps in the CCAP process. DEQ may request that the group reconvene as necessary for future meetings.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On January 29, 2025, DEQ hosted its third Stakeholder Group Meeting as one phase in the input process for the development of the 2025 Virginia CCAP. 7 stakeholders across economic sectors met in-person to offer technical insight on various aspects of the CCAP planning process. As the third of four planned stakeholder group meetings, this meeting covered the following:

1. Updates to the business-as-usual (BAU) modeling.
2. Review of Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) content requirements.
3. Summary of greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions measures and development.

Jonathan Rak, Chief Policy Advisor at DEQ, facilitated the meeting. Fiona Wissell, Decarbonization Managing Consultant at ICF, presented an overview of the BAU scenario modeling and feedback. Deb Harris, Vice President of Climate Change and Sustainability at ICF, presented on the CCAP requirements.

After summarizing the input DEQ received on potential GHG emission reduction measures, stakeholder attendees were tasked with sending DEQ additional materials post-meeting to be used for follow-up discussion at the final meeting scheduled in March. DEQ requested the following submissions:

1. Additional ideas or comments on the summarized GHG emission reduction strategies.
2. Reflections on an interim year to be used for targeting GHG emission reduction goals.
3. Input on developing various CCAP requirements, including the workforce development analysis, funding opportunities, and identified community benefits.

The fourth Stakeholder Group Meeting will be held on March 18, 2025 at the Bank of America Building 3rd Floor Conference Room, 1111 E. Main St., Richmond, VA 23219. This time will be used to present the BAU modeling results and finalize all input received for the development of the CCAP.