

# Maryland Commission on Climate Change

## Mitigation Working Group

March 14, 2016 from 12:00 – 2:00  
Maryland Department of the Environment

**In Attendance:** Tad Aburn; Mike Powell; Stuart Clarke; Brain Hug; Mike Remsberg; Ian Ullman; Drew Cobbs; Melanie Santiago-Mosier; Susan Payne; David Costello; Dan Engleberg; Tom Ballentine; Marissa Gillette; Michael Leslie; Colleen Turner; John Fiaastro; Matthew Fleming; R. Daniel Wallace; Kelly Ann Few; Dave Sewell; Mike Covanta; Frazier Blaylock;

**On Phone:** Rebecca Ruggles; Arjun Makhijani; Ryan McCarthy (CARB)

### Agenda Item # 1: Welcome and Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm. Tad opened the meeting with a discussion of the Agenda and gave each participant a chance to introduce themselves.

### Agenda Item # 2: Update on GGRA Legislation – MWG Co-Chairs

Thanks to all working participants, especially Senator Pinsky

### Agenda Item # 3: Initial Briefing/Discussion on Short-Lived Climate Pollutants

See supplemental material included in meeting packet. Also posted here: [MCCC website](#)

#### Q/A Session following panel SLCP presentations

How does CA quantify individual pollutant impact when they each have different impact?

- 20 year and 100 year Global Warming Potential Factors for each SLCP
- IPCC 4<sup>th</sup> edition GWP factors were used by CA
- IPCC 5<sup>th</sup> edition factors are available

Is incentivizing alternatives to diesel in transport sector part of CA plan?

- Yes, but not in SLCP plan. Part of larger transportation planning process.

What financial incentives are available in CA for SLCP mitigation?

Is Cap/trade revenue the primary funding source?

- No, transportation funding contributes significant share in SLCP mitigation

What about the potential for SLCP programs and the displacement of incumbent cap/trade programs?

- Not an issue in CA, because Cap/Trade fun is growing so rapidly and is in the budget planning process
- Transportation fuel tax doubled available funding, so C/T funds not significant
- No programs needed to be cut to fund mitigation work

What other SLCPs are part of C/T program?

- Pollutants that are difficult to measure are not included in C/T
- Off-set measures are a way to include SLCPs that aren't included in C/T
- The exception is Landfill emissions which are regulated under alternative rules

Why are HFC's increasing so dramatically? In Maryland? Nationally?

- The increase in HFC emissions as indicated by the Maryland figure is business as usual (BAU) which does not include any emission control programs starting at a 2006 baseline. Programs to incentivize substitutes or emission control measures could greatly reduce the projected increase.

How are Maryland's Methane emissions apportioned? Can the sources be isolated?

- Not sure. MDE will send out more info about Methane inventory

Are MD's electricity utilities participating in the STRIDE program?

- Yes, 3 have signed on to modernize the NG delivery system

Process question: How should the MWG proceed following the informative presentation?

- Notify MDE with feedback and ideas.
- As MWG moves ahead, the conversation will be focused on making recommendations to MCCC

Should MWG be looking into MD's leaky NG wells?

- MDE will look into it. <10 NG wells are leaking in MD. Perhaps the coal mines are a more significant source of fugitive Methane

How does CA compare to MD with respect to Methane inventory?

- MDE will follow up with a more detailed look at our Methane inventory

Is MDE reaching out to local governments to discuss Methane leaks?

- Not directly

Is the Methane inventory broken out into local emissions?

- MDE will provide most current inventory to MWG

What are MD's current diesel programs that target Black Carbon? Can we enhance them?

- No programs target BC, but MD has several programs (some federal) that have been successful in reducing diesel and PM emissions. Enhancing them should be considered.

#### **Agenda Item # 4: Finalize MWG Work Plan**

Review priorities

- 40% by 2030 plan. How difficult or easy it will be to achieve the 40% reduction.
- New or enhanced GHG emission reduction strategies for the 25% by 2020.
- Emerging analytical issues and opportunities: Examples : enhanced economic analyses, social equity, methane leakage and methane life-cycle issues
- Routine status reports to the MCCC summarizing the implementation status of each program in the current GGRA plan

**Add language that reads: The Commission will update/adjust Work plan content and schedule as necessary.**

Meeting Schedule Update

- **On July 25th meeting: In addition to the ZEVs/Electric Vehicles/TCI please add EVIC to the agenda**
- Leave other dates as-is – following discussion about PSC ruling(s).

**Agenda Item # 5: Next Steps/Action Items – MWG Co-Chairs, MDE**

- **Adjust language in Work plan**
- **Update agenda for 6/25 MWG meeting**
- **Provide MWG with Maryland Inventory info**
- **MDE follow-up on black carbon calculations and methane inventory and HFC projections**