



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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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