

Clean Heat Standard Technical Advisory Group
August 22, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Attendees

- Members of the Technical Advisory Group present
 - Matt Cota, Meadow Hill Consulting
 - Luce Hillman, University of Vermont
 - Ken Jones, Individual
 - Michelle Keller, Fraktalas Energy
 - Casey Lamont, Burlington Electric Department
 - Sam Lehr, Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas
 - TJ Poor, Vermont Department of Public Service
 - Emily Roscoe, Efficiency Vermont
 - Jared Ulmer, Vermont Department of Health
 - Floyd Vergara, Clean Fuels Alliance America
 - Rick Weston, Individual
 - Patrick Wood, Ag Methane Advisors
 - Brian Woods, Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
- Facilitator
 - Catherine Morris, Consensus Building Institute
- Participating Vermont Public Utility Commission staff
 - Deirdre Morris

Welcome & Review of agenda [Time Stamp 0:00:00]

- Initiate recording

[Review and approval of 8/8/24 minutes](#)

[There were no objections to changing the agenda by removing the item “Recommendation for changes to implementation of CHS,” and moving up “Coordination with other energy programs” to precede the “Double counting” item.]

[Brian Woods moved to approve the 8/8/24 meeting minutes. All were in favor, none opposed, Jared Ulmer abstained. The motion was approved at 9:36 a.m.]

Updates from the PUC [Time Stamp 0:04:30]

[Reminder to complete the ethics training; PUC will not issue any more straw proposals, focus is now on the draft rule; OD deliverable timeline: emissions schedule (and potentially characterization of CHM-eligible fuels) expected before the next TAG meeting; full draft TRM expected the second week of September; OD expected to join the 9/19 TAG meeting]

Overview of emissions factors spreadsheets used in Potential Study [Time Stamp 0:09:40]

[See recording for discussion]

Lifecycle emissions approach [Time Stamp 0:31:00]

- Review OD responses to TAG’s and Bioenergy subgroup’s questions

[There was no substantive feedback. If TAG members have questions/comments following the meeting they would like sent to OD, please forward to Deirdre no later than Wednesday, 8/28]

CHS coordination with other energy programs^{1,2} [Time Stamp 0:35:00]

- Review and input on subgroup memo

[See recording for discussion.]

Double Counting³ [Time Stamp 0:59:00]

Review and provide input on memo

[See recording for discussion.]

Public Comments

[There were no public comments.]

Any further discussion; Vote on Coordination and Double counting memo

Ken Jones made a motion for Rick Weston, Chair, to revise memo on “Coordination with other Energy Programs and Double Counting” based on input received during the meeting and transmit to the PUC. None were opposed to the motion. Motion passed at 10:51 a.m. Rick will consult with individual members in making revisions and submit final memo before the next TAG meeting.]

Break

EAG memo on frontloading LMI credits [Time Stamp 1:28:00]

[See recording for discussion.]

Equity Advisory Group Report [Time Stamp 1:51:00]

[EAG did not meet this week because they did not have a quorum.]

¹ Section 8128(6): “facilitating the program’s coordination with other energy programs;” (i.e. Energy Efficiency Utility Program, RES Tier III, low-income weatherization program)”

² Section 8127(k)(1): “All eligible clean heat measures that are delivered in Vermont beginning on January 1, 2023 shall be eligible for clean heat credits and may be retired and count towards an obligated party’s emission reduction obligations, regardless of who creates or delivers them and regardless of whether their creation or delivery was required or funded in whole or in part by other federal or State policies and programs. This includes individual initiatives, emission reductions resulting from the State’s energy efficiency programs, the low-income weatherization program, and the Renewable Energy Standard Tier 3 program. Clean heat measures delivered or installed pursuant to any local, State, or federal program or policy may count both towards goals or requirements of such programs and policies and be eligible clean heat measures that count towards the emission reduction obligations of this chapter.”

³ Section 8128(9): “coordinating with the Agency of Natural Resources to ensure that greenhouse gas emissions reductions achieved in another sector through the implementation of the Clean Heat Standard are not double-counted in the Vermont Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and Forecast”

Additional public comment [Time Stamp 1:52:50]

[Public comment included a concern about inconsistent assumptions of CI scores in the Potential Study, Inventory and TRM being used for CHS.]

Other Matters [Time Stamp 1:55:30]

- Agenda topics for next meeting – Thurs., Sept. 5th, 9:30 – 12:30

Close

Recording posted here:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLm7FHMU9GY9R_zhQEp6UJf8imn92o7Srd