

Clean Heat Standard Technical Advisory Group  
November 14, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Attendees

- Members of the Technical Advisory Group present
  - Matthew Bakerpoole (in place of Alek Antczak), Vermont Department of Public Service
  - Matt Cota, Meadow Hill Consulting
  - Luce Hillman, University of Vermont
  - Emily Grubert, individual
  - Ken Jones, Individual
  - Michelle Keller, Fraktalas Energy
  - Casey Lamont, Burlington Electric Department
  - Sam Lehr, Molecule Group
  - Emily Levin, Northeast States Coordinated Air Use Management
  - 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]**

**Review and approval of [10/31/24 minutes](#)**

*[Ken Jones moved to approve the 10/31 meeting minutes. None opposed. Brian Woods abstained. Motion passed at 9:36 a.m.]*

**Updates from the PUC [Time Stamp 0:04:50]**

*[Update on OD timeline – expecting the second draft of TRM and related deliverables to be circulated to the TAG next week. An order on Early Action Credits is forthcoming (heads up that there is a TAG ask at the end of the order – whether EAC should be valued differently than regular program credits). The Commission asks for feedback on this question by December 6<sup>th</sup>.]*

**Definition of Advanced Wood Heat** *(revised version shared in advance)* [Time Stamp 0:08:00]

- Revised memo
- Public comment
- TAG vote

*[See TAG memo in meeting materials and recording for discussion. After amending the proposal on which to vote, the group proceeded to the following polls:*

*First poll: Revised option to define advanced wood heat with 1.0 gr/hr or lower PM emission rate and 80% efficiency or higher.*

- *(6) approved*
- *(6) did not approve*
- *(2) abstained*

*Second poll: Revised option with 2.0 gr/hr or lower PM emission rate and 75% efficiency or higher.*

- *(8) approved*
- *(4) did not approve*
- *(2) abstained*

*Public comments included: a concern that if CHS is going to allow eligibility for AWH, it should be limited to the replacement of more polluting existing heating appliances (because replacing any fossil fuel system with wood system results in increased PM emissions); concern that given what the group has heard about wood (regardless of how its burned) – that is creates more PM and greater CO2 emissions than everything else, uncertain why the TAG is still considering these measures.*

*Neither poll achieved a strong majority. Next steps: Rick will draft a decision statement based on the votes – indicating strong support for pellet stoves and excluding cord wood stoves.]*

**BREAK**

**Approach to determining wood fuel CI** *(shared in advance)* [Time Stamp 1:24:00]

- Proposed TAG questions comments
- Public comment
- TAG vote (if appropriate)

*[The group did not proceed to a vote on this issue. Next steps – Deirdre will share PPT with Opinion Dynamics (their approach is not fully endorsed and a clarification on the formula used to arrive at lifecycle emission rate would be helpful). Emily Levin requested additional TAG members to contribute to refining this topic and presenting it in proposal form for a TAG vote (Rick and Emily G. offered assistance).]*

**Review of Installed Clean Heat Measure Credit Characterizations** [Time Stamp 2:08:20]

*[Ken was not available to lead this agenda item. Next steps: Rick and Ken will write up what the TAG needs to discuss and act on in regards to this topic.]*

<p><b>Translating CIs to credit values [Time Stamp 2:10:00]</b></p> <p><i>[Agenda item not fully discussed. Next steps: Rick and Ken will write up what the TAG needs to discuss and act on in regards to this topic.]</i></p>
<p><b>Public Health Considerations for CHS [Time Stamp 2:22:00]</b></p> <p><i>[Group discussed how to move forward on this topic. Next steps: convene subgroup to dive into larger questions in memo, including how the PUC should use this information. Catherine will send out a poll.]</i></p>
<p><b>CH measures that lower energy costs [Time Stamp 2:41:00]</b></p> <p><i>[Insufficient time to fully discuss this item. Next steps: bring Efficiency Vermont back at a future meeting for follow-up questions. The powerpoint was added to today's meeting materials.]</i></p>
<p><b>Agenda items for next TAG meeting [Time Stamp 2:57:00]</b></p> <p><i>[Group will receive an availability poll for next meeting (to accommodate missed Thanksgiving meeting).]</i></p>
<p><b>Public Comment [Time Stamp 3:01:00]</b></p> <p><i>[Public comments included: Reminder to resurface EAG's equity rubric to help the TAG weigh issues like health costs; point made that even if wood fuel was mostly wood residues it would not be carbon neutral and would be difficult to monitor that only wood residues were utilized and credited (also directed folks to pfp site for recent post on Vermont's declining forest carbon sink).]</i></p>
<p><b>Close</b></p> <p><i>Meeting adjourned 12:35 p.m.</i></p>

Meeting Recording: <https://youtu.be/6BFKSKQ1NEQ>