

Clean Heat Standard Equity Advisory Group

Minutes from the May 28, 2024, Full Group Meeting

Attendees

- Members of the Equity Advisory Group present
 - Ben Bolaski, Vermont Department of Public Service
 - Matt Cota, Meadow Hill Consulting
 - John Mandeville, Central Vermont Council on Aging
 - Jen Myers, Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity
 - Pike Porter, individual
 - Sriram Srinivasan, individual
 - Emily Roscoe, Efficiency Vermont
 - Chris Trombly, Vermont State Housing Authority
 - Mia Watson, Vermont Housing Finance Agency
- Participating Vermont Public Utility Commission Personnel
 - Dominic Gatti, CEIF
- Other active participants
 - Ashira Pelt, Consensus Building Institute
 - John McCormick, individual

Agenda & Actions

- Welcome & Review of agenda (*Time Stamp 6:28*)

[Meeting commenced at 12:32 pm ET.]

- Review of May 14, 2024, Meeting Minutes (*Time Stamp 8:14*)

[Mia Watson asked unanimous consent to approve the May 14, 2024, meeting minutes with the correction of the date. The minutes were approved with the date change by unanimous consent at 12:35 pm.]

- Updates from the PUC (*Time Stamp 9:37*)
 - CHS panel at VCRD's Rural Development Summit
 - Plain language overview update
 - Straw proposal on pacing
 - S.305
- Technical Advisory Group Report and on-going collaboration (*Time Stamp 22:23*)
 - Opinion Dynamics update on their Technical Resource Manual work
 - Credit ownership conversations
- Facilitator Update (*Time Stamp 27:28*)

- Resource library
- Report Outline - Demographic Sections Review (*Time Stamp 32:12*)
 - Review, discuss, and prioritize demographics sections of report outline
- Public Comment (*Time Stamp 1:14:43*)
 - John McCormick spoke about the potential impact of the potential Clean Heat Standard on LIHEAP clients and about a legislative proposal to expand the Weatherization Assistance Program.
- Questions from EAG for Public Facilitations (*Time Stamp 1:21:20*)
 - The group coalesced around a set of questions to be sent to the Public Engagement Facilitator.
- Feedback from Equity Framework Subgroup (*Time Stamp 1:33:01*)
 - The subgroup shared their experience with and updates to the equity rubric.

[Mia Watson moved to resolve that Equity Advisory Group approves the presented update to the Equity Framework with minor changes that clarify the intent of this rubric to be used as a discussion promoting document, possibly with example uses. Once those changes are made by Chris Trombly, the EAG communicates this rubric to the TAG and the PUC.]

Pike Porter moved to amend Mia Watson's motion to include the language "Additionally, the question of 'Are those that will benefit from the proposed action clearly identified and disclosed?' is to be added to the rubric." after the second sentence. The motion to amend was passed 7-1 at 2:21 pm ET.

The motion was passed, as amended, 8-0 at 2:23 pm ET.]

- EAG and TAG responses (*Time Stamp 1:58:04*)
 - Dominic Gatti explained how the Commission considers advisory group recommendations.
 - The group discussed potential interactions between the Technical and Equity Advisory Groups and the dynamic of differences in the two groups' perspectives.
- Upcoming Credit Decisions (*Time Stamp 2:16:44*)
 - The group discussed how it wants to engage in upcoming policy decisions.

[Mia Watson moved for the Subgroup on Credit Ownership to be reformulated into a Subgroup on Credit Issues that will meet before the next full group meeting to create a potential scope for its new work that will be brought back to the full group for approval.]

Upon the suggestion of Pike Porter, Mia Watson asked for unanimous consent to add the words “discussion and” before the final word “approval.” The amendment was made without objection.

The motion was passed, as amended, 8-0 at 2:57 pm ET.]

- Public Comment (*Time Stamp 2:32:02*)
 - No public comments were heard.
- Next Steps (*Time Stamp 2:32:32*)
- Close (*Time Stamp 2:33:35*)

[The group adjourned by unanimous consent at 2:59 pm ET.]

Meeting Recording

[YouTube \(https://youtu.be/3ieejys3reo?si=CDrEG_sIC7x24JJ2&t=374\)](https://youtu.be/3ieejys3reo?si=CDrEG_sIC7x24JJ2&t=374)