

Clean Heat Standard Equity Advisory Group

Minutes from the July 9, 2024, Full Group Meeting

Attendees

- Members of the Equity Advisory Group present
 - Ben Bolaski, Vermont Department of Public Service
 - Matt Cota, Meadow Hill Consulting
 - Jen Myers, Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity
 - John Mandeville, Central Vermont Council on Aging
 - Pike Porter, individual
 - Sriram Srinivasan, individual
 - Haley Roe, on behalf of Emily Roscoe, Efficiency Vermont
 - Chris Trombly, Vermont State Housing Authority
 - Mia Watson, Vermont Housing Finance Agency
 - Geoff Wilcox, Vermont Office of Economic Opportunity
- Other active participants
 - Ashira Pelt, Consensus Building Institute
 - Johanna Miller, Vermont Natural Resources Council
 - Richard Giddings, Department of Children & Families

Agenda & Actions

- Welcome & Review of agenda (*Time Stamp 4:06*)

[Meeting commenced at 12:31 pm ET.]

- Question and Answer with LIHEAP Expert - Richard Giddings (*Time Stamp 5:58*)
 - Richard Giddings presented a PowerPoint on the LIHEAP program and answered questions from EAG group members.
- Public Comment (*Time Stamp 52:45*)
 - Johanna Miller spoke about her previous work and the importance of departing from the status quo to increase equity and sustainability in Vermont's heating profile.
 - John McCormick spoke about the increase of clean heat credit costs over time and the impact it will have on LIHEAP clients in the "out-years."
- Continued discussion on LIHEAP with members of the public and Richard Giddings (*Time Stamp 57:32*)
- Review of June 25, 2024, Meeting Minutes (*Time Stamp 1:08:11*)

[Mia Watson asked for unanimous consent to approve the meeting minutes for June 25, 2024. The minutes were approved with the date change by unanimous consent at 1:37 pm.]

- Updates from the PUC (*Time Stamp 1:08:52*)
 - Encouraging EAG members to use the per diem
 - Credit ownership decision (non-early action credit) coming soon
 - Pacing feedback has been received and is being digested
- Technical Advisory Group Report and on-going collaboration (*Time Stamp 1:11:28*)
 - New member of the Technical Advisory Group, Dr. Emily Grubert
 - Collaborative workplan
 - Beginning to work on reviewing measure characterization
- TAG Pacing Update —~~Michelle Keller~~ (*Time Stamp 1:13:45*)
 - Michelle Keller did not attend
 - The group discussed how they wanted to engage with the Technical Advisory Group and how to understand the intersection of pacing and measure characterization.
- EAG Initial Discussion and Question Formulation: Renters and rental home owners (*Time Stamp 1:25:37*)
 - EAG initial discussion and question formulation
- Public Comment (*Time Stamp 1:59:33*)
 - John McCormick asked about the durability of EAG and expressed concern about the intersection of EAG disbanding when the rule is adopted and being implemented. He asserted that an equitable transition and a rapid energy transition are incompatible.
- Credit Issues Subgroup Update (*Time Stamp 2:04:24*)
- Public Engagement Subgroup Update (*Time Stamp 2:17:25*)
- Public Comment (*Time Stamp 1:57:01*)
 - John McCormick commented that regardless of how LIHEAP recipients are treated, every three years, there may be an increase in the cost of clean heat credits, and it will strain energy-burdened households, even if they do make efforts to reduce the carbon intensity of their home heating.
- Next Steps (*Time Stamp 2:26:12*)

- Close (*Time Stamp 2:29:39*)

[The group adjourned by unanimous consent at 2:58 pm ET.]

Meeting Recording

[YouTube \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_B_aLFLMo0\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_B_aLFLMo0)