

Comprehensive Energy Plan / Climate Action Plan

Buildings Technical Workshop

Thursday, August 19th, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Hosted by the Department of Public Service (PSD) in partnership with members of the Cross-Sector Mitigation (CSM) Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council

Location:

This meeting will be primarily hosted remotely via Zoom, although we will also have an in-person location available at the Department of Public Service

Remote Attendees:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6050832511>

To join by phone, dial 929-205-6099. Meeting ID: 605 083 2511#

In-person option:

Department of Public Service, 112 State Street in Montpelier, Giga Meeting Room Third Floor

This workshop will address energy use in buildings, including electric and thermal energy use, as well as efficiency and fuel supply.

Objectives

Obtain stakeholder input on:

- What state strategies, policies, and programs are needed to achieve Comprehensive Energy Plan (CEP) and Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA) Climate Action Plan (CAP) goals in the buildings sector?
- How should the State consider and balance tradeoffs among criteria when assessing policy options (for example: equity, cost-effectiveness, co-benefits, feasibility, carbon, and energy reductions)?

Agenda

9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions (PSD)

- Introduction of Staff/Facilitator/Guests
- Objectives for the Workshop

9:15 Review Agenda, Forum Etiquette Guidelines and Zoom Logistics (Facilitator)

9:20 Overview

- CEP & CAP process, including how plans interact and how each plan will be used and by whom. (TJ Poor, PSD; Marian Wolz, ANR)
- State of the State for Building energy use, emissions, programs: Where are we now? Where are we trying to get to? (TJ Poor, PSD)
- Equity Consideration (Sarah Philips, OEO)

10:20 Questions/Discussion on Overview, State of State, and Equity

10:45 CEP & CAP Decision Making Framework, Breakout Introduction

- Draft Potential CAP Strategies (Dave Farnsworth, RAP, Cross Sector Mitigation Committee Co-Task Lead)
- Decision Making Considerations (TJ Poor, PSD)
 - What considerations should be included when choosing among policy drivers?

- What are the guiding principles that should be used when seeking the best options for moving Vermont forward?

11:00 Break

11:10 Breakout sessions: Residential Buildings (including Multi-family), Commercial Buildings, Building Heating and Fuel Systems (wood, electricity, biofuels/renewable diesel, and renewable natural gas)

- What is working, what new needs to be done, what are the barriers, and how do we overcome them?

Facilitated Discussion (w/ Questions provided in advance)

1) Residential Buildings

- What residential programs, policies, or goals are working, need to be changed, need to be added?
- What are the most important criteria on which to focus for the residential building sector? Can we emphasize one priority without sacrificing another? How?
- What are the best ways to leverage and increase private investments in the quality of residential building stock in Vermont? For example, leveraging the co-benefits associated with health and weatherization, or property resilience (insurance) and weatherization.
- What should be the priority strategies for reducing low-income Vermonters' energy burden and ensuring safe/healthy homes/buildings in this transition?

2) Commercial Buildings

- What commercial programs, policies, or goals are working, need to be changed, need to be added?
- What are the most important criteria on which to focus for the commercial building sector? Can we prioritize one priority without sacrificing another? How?
- What are the best ways to leverage and increase private investments to improve the energy efficiency and resilience of commercial building stock in Vermont? For example, leveraging the co-benefits associated with property resilience and weatherization.
- What should be the priority strategies for reducing low-income Vermonters' energy burden and ensuring safe/healthy homes/buildings in this transition?

3) Building Heating and Fuel Systems

- What programs, policies, or goals for heating and fuel supply are working, need to be changed, need to be added?
- What are the most important criteria on which to focus for building fuel supply? Can we prioritize one priority without sacrificing another? How?
- What role should biomass (e.g., wood pellets, cordwood, cellulosic biofuels), renewable liquid biofuels (e.g., biodiesel, renewable diesel), and biogas (e.g., renewable natural gas) play in achieving state energy goals?
- How important is it that thermal fuel supply come from within Vermont's borders?

12:10 p.m. Report from Breakout Groups & Discussion

- Report out by breakout, with opportunity for participants to discuss sector-specific and cross-cutting issues

12:55 Next Steps and Future Opportunities for Input

- TJ Poor, PSD

1:00 Adjourn