

NEW JERSEY CLEAN AIR COUNCIL

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| <u>Clean Air Council Members</u> Allen Weston, Chair Maria Connolly, PP, AICP, Vice-Chair Leonard Bielory, M.D. Robert Campbell Michael Egenton Timothy Fekete | <u>Clean Air Council Members</u> Toby Hanna, P.E. Andrew McNally Stephen Milgrom Richard Opiekun, Ph.D. Scott Ross John Valeri Jr., Esq. |
| <u>Clean Air Council Liaison</u> Heidi Jones, 609-777-0598 Heidi.Jones@dep.nj.gov | <u>NJ Clean Air Council Website:</u> http://www.state.nj.us/dep/cleanair |

New Jersey Clean Air Council Meeting Record Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

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| CALL TO ORDER | Allen Weston opened the meeting. |
| COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT | All Council members were present with the changes noted below. |
| EXCUSED | Andrew McNally Scott Ross |
| PUBLIC | Kimberly Scarborough, PSEG |
| NJ DEP Staff | Francis Steitz Ken Ratzman Heidi Jones Helaine Barr |

Meeting Record

- Michael Egenton made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes; Leonard Bielory seconded the motion. Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.
- 2021 hearing topic was discussed and will be related to COVID Air Quality Impacts. The hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, 2022 via Microsoft Teams with in-person options, if available. John Valeri has been named chair and Michael Egenton will be vice-chair of the hearing.
- Leonard Bielory made a motion to adjourn; Toby Hanna seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 10:55am.

Administrative Report

Presented by Francis Steitz, Director of Air Quality

1. **GHG Monitoring and Reporting Rule** – While Climate and Clean Energy staff are preparing responses to comments received during the comment period that, closed on August 20, 2021, The Bureau of Sustainability is coordinating with IT staff and contractors to design, test and prepare for deployment of the GHG Refrigeration Registration Portal. The Refrigeration Registration Portal will be a new registration process fully tested thoroughly prior to being made available to the public on NJDEPonline.com following the GHG Monitoring and Reporting Rule adoption.

1. **EV consumer awareness campaign** – [P.L. 2019, c. 362](#) requires NJDEP to implement a statewide consumer awareness campaign for electric vehicles. Air Quality is hiring a Public Relations temp to lead the development of that campaign in coordination with the Department's Communications Office, NJBPU, NJEDA, and other relevant stakeholders. The goal is to launch the campaign within one year. In addition, the Public Relations temp will work on efforts to educate hotel and multi-unit dwellings owners about the importance of EV charger availability and promote EV chargers deployed at NJ's state parks and other tourist locations.

2. **Trenton Renewable Power** -- On September 17, 2021, AQES' Division of Air Quality received an application from Trenton Renewable Power (formally Trenton Biogas) to revise its preconstruction permit to operate existing equipment – three digesters and three internal combustion engines. The permit revision application requests the following increase of allowable emissions: carbon monoxide from 4.10 tons per year (TPY) to 85.4 TPY, volatile organic compounds from 2.73 TPY to 18.4 TPY, and formaldehyde from 0.91 TPY to 11.0 TPY. Additionally, the application proposes to add 1.63 TPY of acetaldehyde, 0.14 TPY of hydrogen sulfide, and 14.6 TPY of methane. The facility's risk screening failed risk significantly for acetaldehyde, acrolein, and formaldehyde.

3. **EPA Electric School Bus rebate program** - EPA announced that it will offer \$7 million for electric school bus rebates in underserved communities. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) appropriated funds to the EPA for "activities that identify and address disproportionate environmental or public health harms and risks in minority populations or low-income populations" under several programs, including the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA). The 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates will offer \$7 million to school districts and private fleet owners serving overburdened communities for the replacement of old diesel school buses with new electric school buses. Selected applicants that scrap and replace their old diesel buses with new electric buses will receive a rebate of \$300,000 per bus. The application period will open in late September with applications due in late November. More information is available at <https://www.epa.gov/dera/2021-american-rescue-plan-arp-electric-school-bus-rebates>. DAQ has distributed this information through its listervs and shared with the Office of Environmental Justice and Office of Local Government Affairs.

4. **BPU proposes more funding for Charge Up NJ program** -BPU is proposing to shift \$20 million in currently available funding from State Facilities Initiative and Energy Storage Programs to the Charge Up NJ program which allocated the full \$30 million available within months of re-launching the program in July 2021. BPU is seeking comments on the proposed second FY22 Budget revision and the updated [FY22 Charge Up New Jersey Program Compliance Filing](#) released on September 23, 2021. Staff held a virtual Public Stakeholder Meeting on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. ET to further discuss the proposed changes to the Charge Up New Jersey Program

5. **EDA's Truck Voucher Program Expands** - EDA's electric truck voucher program (NJZIP) has been expanded by \$9.25 million and now includes the greater New Brunswick area. Businesses (for-profit and non-profit), and institutions (including municipalities and counties) are eligible, though State government is not. The initial \$15 million voucher pilot program launched earlier this year to help businesses and institutions in the greater Camden and greater Newark areas offset the cost of purchasing new, zero-emission medium-duty vehicles. As of September 29, 2021, 38 applications have been submitted to the program, representing 148 zero-emission vehicles, and nearly reaching full subscription of the initial \$15 million voucher pool. More than 75 percent of the applicants were small or micro-businesses and over 50 percent certified as minority- and/or woman-owned businesses. The source of funding is RGGI proceeds. Unlike DEP's electric vehicle truck program, EDA's program does not cover the cost of the necessary charging stations.
6. **EPA GMAP Tool in New Jersey** - On October 13th and 15th, EPA's Geospatial Measurement of Air Pollution (GMAP) tool surveyed emissions at multiple facilities located in North Jersey. The GMAP vehicle is equipped with mobile measurement systems that are capable of measuring wind speed and direction, hydrogen sulfide, methane, and VOC emissions to include BTEX (benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene). Follow-up inspections will be performed, as needed, based on quantified emissions.
7. **Advanced Clean Cars II** - On October 13, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) held its final public workshop on the Advanced Clean Cars II (ACC II) rulemaking. During the workshop, CT & MA presented a Zero Emission Vehicle credit pooling proposal designed in collaboration with CARB and Section 177 ZEV members of NESCAUM's Mobile Sources Committee. The ZEV credit pooling proposal is designed to provide the flexibility needed for states to support potential adoption of the ZEV program while ensuring substantial volumes of zero-emission vehicles are delivered to all ZEV states. CARB expects to finalize its Standardized Regulatory Impact Assessment and Staff Report Writing between November and January and will conduct a Board hearing in June 2022.
8. **RGGI Program Review: Public listening session** - The RGGI States held a public listening session on October 5th to receive comment on the upcoming program review. There were 155 registered participants that included environmental advocacy groups, carbon market traders and representatives from the power sector as well as a few individual citizens. The majority of commentors credited RGGI as a beneficial program that reduces emissions and generates revenue for climate beneficial investments but wanted the program to do more. There were several commenters that stated the RGGI cap needs to be more stringent, and the cap trajectory should align with the decarbonization goals of the states, and that proceeds should be directed towards EJ/LMI communities. An additional specific comment included that a lower compliance threshold at facility level should be adopted that reduces the applicability from 25MW to 15 MW. The RGGI States have scheduled the 2nd listening session for November 8, 2021.
9. **EPA Announces PFAS Strategy** - On October 18, 2021, EPA announced their comprehensive PFAS Strategic Roadmap: EPA's Commitments to Action 2021-2024. EPA's PFAS Roadmap focuses on three central directives:
 - **Research.** Invest in research, development, and innovation to increase understanding of PFAS exposures and toxicities, human health and ecological effects, and effective interventions that incorporate the best available science.
 - **Restrict.** Pursue a comprehensive approach to proactively prevent PFAS from entering air, land, and water at levels that can adversely impact human health and the environment.

- **Remediate.** Broaden and accelerate the cleanup of PFAS contamination to protect human health and ecological systems.

EPA's webpage on PFAS: <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-strategic-roadmap-epas-commitments-action-2021-2024>

A copy of the roadmap can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-10/pfas-roadmap_final-508.pdf

2021 MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS (tentative)

Meeting will be 9am – 11:30am, every 3rd Wednesday of the month.

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| January 20 | Microsoft Teams Meeting. |
| February 17 | Microsoft Teams Meeting. |
| March 17 | Microsoft Teams Meeting. |
| April 21 | Public Hearing - Microsoft Teams Meeting. |
| May 19 | Microsoft Teams Meeting. |
| June 16 | Microsoft Teams Meeting. |
| July 21 | Microsoft Teams Meeting. - present report to commissioner (tentative). |
| August 18 | No meeting. (Microsoft Teams Meeting, only if needed) |
| September 15 | Microsoft Teams Meeting. |
| October 20 | Microsoft Teams Meeting. |
| November 17 | Microsoft Teams Meeting. |
| December 15 | Microsoft Teams Meeting. |