



119 Washington Avenue, Suite 1G
Albany, NY 12210
518.432.1405
info@aceny.org | www.aceny.org

September 20, 2021

NY Climate Action Council Meeting Held September 13th

New York's Climate Action Council (CAC) met on September 13th. Co-Chair Seggos delivered opening remarks, mentioning the gubernatorial transition and welcoming Gov. Kathy Hochul. He also mentioned the brutal recent storms and some recent milestones for the new Governor, including the two recent EV announcements. Co-chair Harris mentioned that the PSC approved the CEF petition that NYSERDA filed (to get 40% benefits to disadvantaged communities), launch of \$6M climate justice fellowships, and recent announcements of efficiency programs in public housing, and new funds for transition plans in communities facing fossil fuel plant closures.

Next, the Council received a presentation from the Climate Justice Working Group (CJWG). The CJWG presented their feedback on the recommendations from the Agriculture & Forestry Advisory Panel and the Land Use & Local Government Advisory Panel. CLJW provided a quite detailed critique of the recommendations of these two panels, which you can see here.

Next, there was a presentation and discussion of the Integration Analysis Scenario Planning. Although there were no new results from the modeling, there was an update on the planned scenarios and sensitivity analyses. It was stated that the scenarios will all model a zero emissions power sector by 2040; significant renewables buildout; more transit and less VMT; a ramp up of electrification, increased mitigation of methane emissions from agriculture and forestry; and flexibility in end use electrical demand (through, e.g., customer engagement and advanced technologies). It seems there will be three "core strategies" or scenarios: one that makes strategic use of low carbon fuels (like RNG and Hydrogen); one that does not but will instead have an accelerated transition away from fossil fuels; and one that combines the first two to go beyond an 85% reduction in emissions by 2050. The sensitivity analyses will examine a range of fuel and technology costs; new technologies available earlier; electric sector sensitivities; more VMT reduction; a mix of heat pumps and flexible load to adjust peaks; and a range of upstream emissions from natural gas. The sensitivities in the power sector will include with and without a moratorium on fossil fuel plants; with and without nukes; no combustion at all; with and without long duration storage; and with and without renewable natural gas.

Lastly, the state team mentioned that their current plan is to include three separate scenario's in the Draft Scoping Plan that is socialized and discussed in 2022.

At the conclusion of the meeting, there was a review of next steps.