

NEW JERSEY CLEAN AIR COUNCIL

<u>Clean Air Council Members</u> Allen Weston, Chair Maria Connolly, PP, AICP, Vice-Chair Leonard Bielory, M.D. Michael Egenton Timothy Fekete	<u>Clean Air Council Members</u> Toby Hanna, P.E. Stephen Milgrom Richard Opiekun, Ph.D. John Valeri Jr., Esq.
<u>Clean Air Council Liaison</u> George Berdomas, 609-984-1483 George.Berdomas@dep.nj.gov	<u>NJ Clean Air Council Website:</u> http://www.state.nj.us/dep/cleanair

New Jersey Clean Air Council Meeting Record

NJ Department of Environmental Protection
 401 East State Street
 Trenton, NJ 08625

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

CALL TO ORDER	Allen Weston opened the meeting.
COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT	All Council members were present with the changes noted below.
ABSENT	
EXCUSED	Michael Egenton
REPRESENTED	Kim Scarborough representing the State Chamber
GENERAL PUBLIC ATTENDEES	Chrissy Buteas Adam Neuman Robert Laumbach Sharon Brown
NJ DEP Staff	Francis Steitz George Berdomas Kenneth Ratzman

Meeting Summary

- Allen Weston called to order and roll was taken.
- Motion to approve the Air Quality Awareness Page at 9:38 a.m. by Allen Weston, seconded by Leonard Bielory and third by John Valeri.
- Motion to approve minutes by Leonard Bielory, seconded by Maria Connolly and third by Allen Weston at 9:38 a.m.
- Francis Steitz presented the February Administrative Report.
 - o Administrative Report Item 3 Comments
 - How much per state? Unknown
 - Cover the backlog? Yes
 - Potentially statewide and much bigger program.
 - o Administrative Report Item 5
 - Could we put something in regarding this? Would be good to have for next month's hearing.
- Reviewed the Public Hearing Speakers List to ensure all updates have been made.
- Reviewed the CAC Registration List for all attendees that are registered.
- 2023 CAC Invite Draft
- New Business/Old Business – None
- Motion to adjourn first by Allen Weston, second by Leonard Bielory and third by Richard Opiekun at 10:44 a.m.

Administrative Report

Presented by Francis Steitz, Director of Air Quality

1. **Clayville Station (Vineland City Municipal Electric Utilities) 5-Year Title V Renewal:** On February 13, 2023, Vineland City Municipal Electric Utilities (VMEU) submitted an application for the Clayville Station to renew their Title V permit, which expires December 4, 2023. The Clayville Station (PI 75808) is a power plant located in Vineland (not in EJ area), Cumberland County. The review of this application will be expedited to ensure that the VMEU permit approval does not lapse. VMEU did not submit their renewal application in time for the Department to have it deemed administratively complete at least 12-months prior to the expiration date. Without this determination in place, VMEU will not have an application shield as per N.J.A.C. 7:27-22.7; this means that the renewal permit must be issued prior to December 4, 2023, for the Clayville Station to continue operation with a valid air permit.
2. **Inflation Reduction Act planning grant for NJDEP Air Program:** On February 15, EPA announced the availability of \$25 million in non-competitive Section 103 CAA grants for air pollution control agencies; DEP is expected to receive approximately \$800,000 and will use it for transportation decarbonization planning efforts. This one time funding allocation, authorized by Section 60105(f) of the Inflation Reduction Act, is intended to supplement regular annual funding to air agencies and can be used for any activity authorized under Section 103 of the Clean Air Act which says in part “promote the coordination and acceleration of, research, investigations, experiments, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects (including health and welfare effects), extent, prevention, and control of air pollution.” Workplans are due April 15, 2023.

3. **Inflation Reduction Act Climate Pollution Reduction planning grants:** On March 1, EPA announced \$250 million in non-competitive Climate Pollution Reduction grants (\$3 million per state) for states, tribes, and others to develop GHG reduction plans. This funding, authorized by Section 60114 of the Inflation Reduction Act, will be followed by a national competition for \$4.6 billion in implementation grants at the end of 2023. NJDEP is the lead agency for this grant. States must submit work plans and budgets by April 28 and the funding will be released Summer 2023. The workplan shall describe the approach to interagency & intergovernmental coordination, as well as the plan for public and stakeholder engagement. The recipient must produce & submit the following 3 deliverables over the course of the 4-year grant period.
 - a. Priority Climate Action Plan due March 2024 which includes a list of near term, high priority, implementation ready measures (does not have to cover all sectors);
 - b. A Comprehensive Climate Action Plan which includes longer term GHG emission reduction goals and strategies for all significant GHG sources/sinks due Summer/Fall 2025; and
 - c. A status report with next steps and future budget/staffing needs due Summer/Fall 2027.

4. NJPACT Climate Pollutant Reduction (CPR) – Second Phase Kick-off Meeting: On March 7, 2023, Air Energy & Materials Sustainability led by Assistant Commissioner Baldauf held a public meeting to kick-off the next phase of potential Climate Pollutant Reduction (CPR) measures. During the meeting, the Department provided a short background, recapped its CPR-I rules, and introduced potential measures for CPR-II, including Advanced Clean Cars II, that the Department will begin to stakeholder. Over 100 people attended the virtual meeting. The meeting materials are posted on the NJPACT website <https://dep.nj.gov/njpact/>.

5. Vinyl Chloride Air Samples: The Air program received lab results for samples collected at the four NJ air toxics monitoring sites on February 5, 2023, the first regularly scheduled samples taken after the train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, which occurred on February 3, 2023. Vinyl chloride was the chemical of concern that was released from the derailed train cars. NJDEP routinely measures vinyl chloride at 4 sites by collecting 24-hour samples every 6 days ([2021-nj-aq-report.pdf](#)). For the samples collected on February 5, vinyl chloride was detected at three of the sites (Chester, Elizabeth, and Rutgers) but was not detected at the Camden site. The levels measured ranged between 0.004 micrograms per cubic meter (ug/m^3) at Rutgers and 0.007 ug/m^3 at Elizabeth and are comparable to historical levels, which are typically very low in the range of 0.005 ug/m^3 to 0.010 ug/m^3 when detected. A summary of the health impacts at these measured levels follows:

- The historical levels are significantly less than the level at which there are acute (short term exposure) health impacts (180,000 ug/m^3 in any hour of exposure).
- The historical levels are also well below the level at which there are chronic (long term exposure) health impacts (100 ug/m^3 averaged over one year of exposure).
- If an individual was exposed to the historical levels for their entire lifetime, the increased cancer risk would be around 0.05 in a million which is more than ten times below the long-term cancer health benchmark.

6. Advanced Clean Cars II stakeholdering kickoff: On March 13, 2023, the Air Program held a kickoff for the potential adoption of Advanced Clean Cars II. Approximately 100 people attended, with the majority encouraging adoption of the rule by the end of the year. Additional focus group conversations will be held over the coming weeks.

Clean Air Council FY22/23 Meeting Locations

MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS (tentative)

Meeting will be 9:30am – 12pm, every 3rd Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise noted.

April 19	Public Hearing Room - Microsoft Teams Meeting and in-person (hybrid). – 401 E. State Street, Trenton, NJ
May 17	PSEG's Energy & Environmental Resource Center (EERC). 244 Chestnut St., Salem, NJ.
June 21	Hybrid: 401 E. State Street, Trenton, NJ
July 19	7 th Floor Large Conference Room. Hybrid: 401 E. State Street, Trenton, NJ – present Hearing Report to the commissioner
August 16	No meeting. (Microsoft Teams Meeting, only if needed)
September 20	Hybrid: Microsoft Teams & In-person
October 18	Hybrid: Microsoft Teams & In-person
November 15	Hybrid: Microsoft Teams & In-person
December 20	IBEW – 299 Ward Street, East Windsor, NJ 08520