

This Month at NESCAUM June 2018

Staff Update

Matt Solomon left NESCAUM at the beginning of June to change tack in the course of his career by taking on a new challenge managing his family-owned business in Boston. Matt has been a steady hand guiding many of NESCAUM's transportation projects, and embodied the much valued combination of technology savvy with policy wonkiness. Over the years, Matt actively and effectively took part in efforts among many section 177 states to adopt the CA LEV program, and then provided support to the states in their efforts to implement their adopted programs. He has been heavily involved in defending California's ability to set its own vehicle tailpipe standards, and preserving the right of other states to opt into the CA standards if they so choose. He also has been actively engaged in the efforts to establish more health and climate protective national mobile source standards, and managed a multitude of clean diesel projects within the NESCAUM region. We will miss Matt, and wish him well in his new endeavor.

Policy

EPA Proposal on Considering Costs and Benefits in Rulemaking: On June 13, EPA's advance notice of proposed rulemaking on "Increasing Consistency and Transparency in Considering Costs and Benefits in the Rulemaking Process" appeared in the Federal Register (83 *Fed. Reg.* 27524) with a 30 day comment period ending on July 13, 2018. NESCAUM is reviewing the proposal and is likely to recommend to the directors that we submit comments on it. We are also likely to recommend that we ask for an extension of the comment period in light of the major implications of the rule to recast long-standing practices in evaluating the benefits and costs of clean air regulations. Contact: [Paul Miller](#).

Climate and Energy

Eastern Energy Expo 2018: On May 23, Paul Miller presented results from NESCAUM's climate mitigation work at the Eastern Energy Expo 2018 in Foxwoods, CT. The talk focused on the residential/commercial thermal sector, as a large part of the Expo audience is composed of heating oil distributors in the Northeast. The talk presented results from greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction pathways developed by NESCAUM for the New England region using the Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning (LEAP) framework. Contact: [Paul Miller](#).

Mobile Sources

International ZEV Alliance Assembly: The International ZEV Alliance, a group of leading jurisdictions working together to accelerate the market for ZEVs through actions and policies that lead to economies of scale, innovation, and improved consumer acceptance, held its third annual in-person assembly in the United Kingdom (UK) on May 22-23, 2018. Member jurisdictions at the meeting included California, Quebec, British Columbia, Germany, Norway, The Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. Elaine O'Grady attended the meeting on behalf of a number of member states that were not able to be there. Over the course of the meeting, the group exchanged information on policies, challenges and opportunities related to accelerating the

ZEV market. The ZEV Alliance members visited some of the highlights of the UK's growing electric vehicle market including the EV Experience Centre, a brand neutral EV showroom, in Milton Keynes, the new London Electric Vehicle Company (LEVC) factory in Coventry. In addition, the group learned about various efforts underway by the UK's Office of Low Emission Vehicles and the Greater London Authority to reduce air pollution and promote zero-emission transport, such as: London's ultra-low emissions zone, which will charge fees on vehicles not meeting stringent emissions requirements starting in 2019; transforming London's bus and taxi fleets; investments in DC fast charging stations; and the UK's decision to end sales of conventional vehicles in 2040. The ZEV Alliance members also discussed the biggest ZEV-related priorities in their jurisdictions over the coming year, recruitment efforts, and possible focus areas for 2019. More information about the International ZEV Alliance is available at <http://www.zevalliance.org/>. Contact: [Elaine O'Grady](#).

Maryland Public Service Commission (MD PSC) Hearing on Transportation

Electrification: The MD PSC held a two-day hearing on May 17-18 to gather stakeholder comments on transportation electrification proposals from the State's four primary utilities. The utility proposals were for investments in infrastructure and consumer outreach programs totaling more than \$100 million over a five-year period. In addition to presentations from each of the utilities and Commission staff, the Commission heard from the agency heads of the state environmental, transportation and energy agencies, ratepayer advocates, environmental advocates, private sector charging providers, advocates for moderate- and low-income communities, and industry experts. To provide a regional context, Kathy Kinsey spoke on the utility and public utility commission components of the recently released *Northeast Corridor Regional Strategy for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure*. She also mentioned utility transportation electrification proposals that are approved or pending in other Northeast Corridor states. While not unanimous, there was broad stakeholder consensus in support of the proposals. The MD PSC is likely to issue a procedural order establishing further proceedings to consider the utility proposals. Contact: [Kathy Kinsey](#).

Multi-State ZEV Action Plan Update: NESCAUM has continued to work with the Multi-State ZEV Task Force to develop the updated ZEV Action Plan. The final Action Plan draft was circulated to the ZEV Task Force in early May, and revisions based on feedback and edits from the states were incorporated. Also in May, NESCAUM organized an informal meeting with five representatives of non-governmental organizations to gather input on important ideas for inclusion in the Plan (meetings with other Action Plan partners took place in April). NESCAUM hired a design firm to develop the Plan design, and reviewed several iterations of the proposed design layout with the ZEV Task Force. The document will be printed by June 15, and released formally either on June 19 or 20 (depending on arrangements for media outreach). Contact: [Sarah McKearnan](#).

Northeast Corridor Regional Strategy for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure: On May 16, NESCAUM released the Northeast Corridor Regional Strategy for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure, which offers a multistate vision for electric vehicle (EV) charging

infrastructure investment for 2018-2021 and recommendations to ensure public and private funding decisions are strategically integrated. The regional strategy is the result of a multi-state effort facilitated by NESCAUM and supported by CT, DE, DC, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT and VA, and incorporates input from automobile manufacturers, utilities, electric vehicle charging companies, and others. The first section of the regional strategy identifies several overarching issues, such as electricity rate structures, interoperability, signage, and pricing transparency that are important to consider when planning infrastructure investments. To guide and direct light-duty EV charging infrastructure investments in the Northeast Corridor, the second section identifies specific roles for investors and priorities for charging use cases, including charging at home, at work, around town, on the road, and at destination locations. The last section recommends exploring the development of a Northeast Corridor branding initiative to promote the region's charging network and to increase EV awareness, utilization and satisfaction. The release of the regional strategy received positive media coverage from Automotive News, Reuters, Green Car Reports, Clean Technica, the LA Times, and many others. Contact: [Elaine O'Grady](#).

Science and Technology

Air & Waste Management Association (AWMA) Annual Conference & Exhibition (ACE) 2018: Mahdi Ahmadi will be presenting on two NESCAUM activities at the AWMA ACE 2018 annual meeting in Hartford, CT during June 25-28, 2018. He will present on "Analysis of Stack Temperature Data to Identify Real-Life Use Pattern of Wood Burning Devices" and "Investigating Mercury and other Trace Elements in Residual Fuel and Home Heating Oil Used in New York State." Both presentations are based on projects performed at NESCAUM with funding support from NYSERDA. Contact: [Mahdi Ahmadi](#).

EPA Proposed Rule on Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science: On May 25, EPA extended the comment period until August 16 for its proposed rule "Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science" (83 Fed. Reg. 18768). EPA will also hold a public hearing on the rule in DC on July 17. NESCAUM has requested a morning timeslot for the hearing. NESCAUM would present brief testimony based on the draft comments we previously circulated for review to the Attainment Planning Committee, the Air Toxics and Public Health Committee, and the NESCAUM directors. Contact: [Paul Miller](#).

Committee Updates

Air Toxics and Public Health (ATPH) Committee: The last monthly ATPH Committee call was held on May 17. NJ, NY, MA and VT presented their data on ambient formaldehyde measurements over the years. There is interest in whether ambient formaldehyde concentrations are increasing or decreasing as a result of the addition of ethanol to gasoline and the increased use of natural gas. The next monthly ATPH Committee call is scheduled for June 21 at 2 p.m. Contact: [Kara Murphy](#).

Attainment and Planning Committee (APC): The latest monthly APC call was held on June 6. Topics included ozone exceedances so far this season, EPA's proposed action to deny DE and

MD section 126 petitions (comment period ends July 23, public hearing in DC on June 22), an update on the Long Island Sound Tropospheric Ozone Study (LISTOS) and the Long Island Sound ferry ozone monitoring by CT-DEEP, training opportunities, and the EPA Science Advisory Board's May 31 discussion of EPA's "Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science" proposal. As a follow up to the monthly call, APC members were informed that EPA would be proposing the rule on "Increasing Consistency and Transparency in Considering Costs and Benefits in the Rulemaking Process." The next monthly APC call is scheduled for Wednesday, August 1, at 2 p.m. There is no July call, but an *ad hoc* call may be scheduled if needed. Contact: [George Allen](#).

LEV Workgroup: The LEV Workgroup held its annual meeting on June 13-14 in Northampton, MA. Discussions included recaps on the regional EV charging strategy and the updated Multi-State ZEV Action Plan, a roundtable on state VW settlement funding investments, a CARB presentation on its Advanced Clean Trucks rulemaking, the status of recent federal developments, and a roundtable on state mobile source programs. The LEV Workgroup also continues to hold monthly calls on the second Thursday of every month, with the next monthly call on July 12 at 2:00-3:00 p.m. Contact: [Elaine O'Grady](#).

Permit Modeling Committee (PMC): The last monthly PMC call was held on May 17. EPA staff presented updates relevant to state permitting activities. The 2018 Regional, State, and Local Modelers' Workshop was held on June 5-7 in Boston, which several PMC members were able to attend. The venue and time for the PMC annual meeting is now set for September 20-21 at the Rutgers University EcoComplex in Bordentown, NJ, and the next monthly call is scheduled for June 21, 2018, 10 a.m. Contact: [Mahdi Ahmadi](#).

Training

To access the most recent NESCAUM Training Schedule and Grant Expense Report, please click [here](#). Contact: [Kara Murphy](#).