

October & November Public Comment

Presentation Public Comments: Decarbonizing New England

Dan Dolan from NEPGA

- <https://vimeo.com/468147306>
- password NHES

Mon 11/9/2020 11:53 AM

Name: Sarah Weck

The carbon fee and dividend model has been approved by over 3,500 of the world's most renowned economists. In NH we have the ability to pass carbon fee and dividend legislation, HB735. NH residents will come out with more money in their pockets, and we will also reduce our greenhouse gas emissions if we put a price on carbon and refund the monies collected back to NH taxpayers.

Mon 11/9/2020 8:58 AM

Name: J Kondos

We're already seeing the warming scientists have warned us about: sea level rising, shorter winters w/ random mud seasons, the spread of pests, threats to beloved species, the severe storms and droughts. The numbers don't lie, for tens of thousands of years carbon dioxide (CO2) levels averaged 280 PPM. As a result of fossil fuel burning we have raised this each year to a frightening 417 PPM this year. This is trapping heat and raising air and ocean temperatures. As a result, we are playing carbon roulette w/ increasingly dangerous and costly record shattering droughts, fires, storms & floods. We need to accelerate the transition to clean energy. Thx, jk

Sun 11/8/2020 8:15 PM

Name: Michael Fleming

For my children and grandchildren, the brakes need to be put on ASAP to get to net zero carbon emissions. I'm old enough to know that YES YES YES the future does come, and quickly. We need to act now to make sure that future does not include dangerous climate change and the effects that go along with that.

Thu 11/5/2020 10:39 PM

Name: Peter Bixby

The range of negative consequences from emissions, which range from heat trapping greenhouse gasses to nitrogenous compounds, sulfur compounds, and particulates has been well documented over the last several decades. Often, the excuse for inaction is that action would cost money, and might have a negative impact on some economic sectors. But the economic impact of failing to act is even more substantial. NH industries like maple sugar production, and winter sports tourism are significantly threatened. Sea level rise is already causing flooding in our seacoast communities. The economic cost of health ailments like asthma and COPD are increased by low air quality. Warm weather means that ticks, which carry serious pathogens like lyme and babesiosis, overwinter in greater numbers. Ticks also are a serious threat to our moose population. Climate change is also creating more widely variable weather, concentrating rain and snowfall into higher volume events, and then creating long stretches with minimal precipitation. The drought conditions in 2015, 2016 and 2020 have taken a serious toll on our dairy industry. We need to take substantially stronger action to reduce and eliminate polluting emissions to reduce the economic damage they are causing.

Fri 10/30/2020 5:44 PM

Name: Dylan Lucas

We need defined tariffs for virtual power plants to comply with FERC Order 2222. By creating transparent pricing, we can allow home and business owners with solar, EVs, and smart thermostats turn their properties into revenue generating assets which will help pay for the private ownership of democratized energy resources. South Australia has been able to meet 100% of their grid demand with solar, 79% from just rooftop solar. New Hampshire can do the same if we compensate overproduction and time of use exporting instead of simple net metering.

Sat 10/24/2020 10:46 AM

Name: Sarah Thorne

I strongly support the PUC adopting and supporting a policy of attaining net zero carbon emissions by 2050 in

New Hampshire, and by 2030 in our electric sector! This is vital for our health and economy. The health savings alone will pay for this transition away from fossil fuels and to renewables. Thank you.

Wed 10/14/2020 8:23 PM

Name: Catherine Koning

To the NH Emission Commission:

I am writing to urge you to adopt strong, aggressive goals to achieve zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. My family and I are watching what is already happening from 1 degree C temperature increase, and we are terrified for our future. We are particularly concerned about the wild creatures that share our planet with us. We need to make sure that the goals we set will allow our oceans, our coral reefs, our forests, lakes and wetlands, to survive and support the plants and animals that live there. And of course we have to make sure that human health and human habitats are strongly protected as well. As you know, all aspects of the quality of life on earth are in imminent danger from climate change. The impacts are happening faster and hitting harder than scientists had predicted, and there are so many unknowns remaining. It is incumbent upon us to take rapid, drastic action. Thus nothing less than ZERO GHG EMISSIONS is acceptable. Setting the goal of NO greenhouse gas production at the state level, and will help NH communities move forward with clean energy initiatives which many have adopted, such as Keene's Climate Action Plan and the city's goal to achieve 100% clean and renewable energy by 2050.

Thank you. Catherine Owen Koning

Sun 10/11/2020 6:44 PM

Name: Sathvik Namburar

As a Dartmouth medical student and future healthcare provider, I am concerned about GHG emissions and the human contribution to climate change. I have worked in a hospital in San Francisco, where I saw people whose health was affected by recent wildfires, which in turn are a direct result of climate change. Climate change is as much a health crisis as an environmental and economic crisis, and I hope the Commission is able to work to ensure that New Hampshire does its part to mitigate the drastic effects of unchecked climate change. I also hope the Commission will examine overlooked contributors to climate change; for example, the healthcare sector is responsible for 8-10% of GHG emissions in the US, and little is known about how we can decrease these emissions. The Commission should work to understand exactly what the drivers of climate change are in our state and then find ways to mitigate these drivers.

Fri 10/9/2020 2:18 PM

Name: Peter Wotowiec

As a long-time NH grower, I see the weather/climate changes now affecting my crops. There are too hot temperatures with extended drought followed by severe rainfall that batters my wilted crops and creates soil run-off and erosion. The science is pretty clear that increasing atmospheric greenhouse gasses are at the root of our climate emergency and that the bulk of those increases are due to human actions. I strongly support a zero-carbon emission goal and deadline for the State of New Hampshire for 2050 or earlier. There is no time to lose. Please act with extreme focus and urgency!

Thu 10/8/2020 6:28 PM

Name: Tracy Bartella-Metell

Hi Mr. Sherman and Emissions Commission members,

My name is Tracy Bartella-Metell and I'm a Keene resident and a board member of a clean energy focused non-profit organization, the Monadnock Sustainability Hub.

I'm writing to urge yourself and the NH Emissions Commission to adopt setting targets for greenhouse gas emissions in NH. Setting a goal gives you something to rally behind and gives you a compass to calibrate against with all of the projects and initiatives that will support the goal. Otherwise, it's like setting out with the intention to hike without actually naming that you want to hike Mt. Monadnock. How likely do you think it is that you'll get to the top? You need to know where you start and know where you're going before you can figure out how to get there. We might not reach the target, and that's okay. We need to move beyond fear of failure when the real failure is to not take a stance and skip having a goal in the first place. Please consider my thoughts in your decision, it's more than just my humble opinion, there's a lot of psychology around goal setting to back this up. Thank-you kindly,

Tracy Bartella-Metell

Thu 10/8/2020 5:50 PM

Name: Robin Mower

Targets to reduce emissions to combat climate change are necessary but not sufficient. We need no more studies. We need action. Bold targets will force us to measure whether our actions are meaningful. The will of the people is clear. In March 2007 – over 13 years ago – 164 municipalities adopted the New Hampshire Climate Change Resolution. Later that year Governor Lynch established a Climate Change Policy Task Force whose work culminated in the March 2009 “NH Climate Action Plan.” That plan recommended “a mid-term goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 20 percent below 1990 levels by 2025.” But year after year the Climate Action Plan appears to have been ignored as bills to move forward energy initiatives have stuttered in Concord even as growing evidence of climate change acceleration is impossible to ignore. New Hampshire continues to rank lowest of the New England states on the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy’s annual “State Energy Efficiency Scorecard” by about 50 percent. Shamefully, it is now more than a decade after the people of New Hampshire spoke. Where is leadership? Where is a vision that links climate change action to job growth and the health of not just our planet (and all living creature) but our economy? New England is a regional laggard when it comes to energy initiatives. Let’s build on RGGI and other cooperative measures. I urge the NH Emission Commission to recognize the urgency of climate change action by establishing bold emission targets and advocating for nonpartisan support for New Hampshire’s energy future.

Thu 10/8/2020 5:34 PM

Name: Eve Kornhauser

There seems to be very little that is as crucial as moving to zero emissions. Our childrens' futures are at risk - as well as the future of the entire planet. I hope NH will be a leader in taking action towards this.

Wed 10/7/2020 7:44 PM

Name: Nancy Wightman

New Hampshire must do more now to help slow the alarming rate of change caused by CO2 emissions. We need stronger goals to get to net zero. Please! We want action.

Wed 10/7/2020 12:59 PM

Name: Susan Opal

We have a clear view of the technical changes which need to be done for our future success. The innovations are coming on and the prices of the new technologies are less expensive than before. The time for change is now.

Sun 10/4/2020 3:47 PM

Name:

Robert Schultz

While I am not a scientist, the importance of scientifically- guiding public policy – personal lives, too!--by the results of evidence-based inquiry becomes more persuasive daily. What I am is a retired college/university philosopher who began teaching environmental ethics courses immediately after the first Earth Day. For 35 years, and with increasing focus, my students and I studied and discussed the urgency of articulating and promoting gratitude toward those of our forebears who cared for the earth and of our own human obligations to future generations--most especially with respect to climate disruption. I will always remember flying home to Seattle with the fellow passenger in the aisle seat at my elbow straining in curiosity to see what I was reading to prepare for the next morning's class meeting. As I had just been reading *The End of Nature* with my undergraduates, it was good fun and certainly encouraging to discover that my seat-mate was Bill McKibben! I write to offer sincere and enthusiastic plaudits and thanks to your Commission for your work to bring New Hampshire into the working company of those trying seriously to curb polluting emissions. /Bob Schultz, Ph.D., Lebanon, NH.

Thu 10/1/2020 11:17 PM

Name: Rebecca MacKenzie

There was a suggestion that the 2009 Climate Action Plan be used as a "starting point" for the Commission's work. I hope the good work of the Commission will, indeed, use the 2009 Plan as a starting point; however, I am vehemently opposed to the use of wood bio-mass as a viable option regarding an energy source on many levels. First, the particulate matter wood bio-mass plants emit are a danger to human health. Second,

deforestation reduces the ability to sequester carbon. Third, deforestation puts water sources at risk for contamination by reducing the purification of ground water. Fourth, deforestation interrupts the water cycle, exacerbating drought. Fifth, bio-diversity is put at risk when natural communities are disrupted through deforestation. Human life depends on the health and welfare of bio-diversity. Please eliminate this from a current Climate Action plan as the science has moved forward from the concept of using wood bio-mass as an energy source.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rebecca MacKenzie

Name: Kristen Thompson

Hello, As graduate students at Antioch University in Keene, studying Sustainable Development and Climate Change, the work that this commission is undertaking is of great importance and interest to us. NH's 2009 Climate Action Plan was science based and put forth feasible and reasonable solutions and strategies to reduce GHG emissions by 80% below 1990 levels by 2050 and to reduce GHG emissions by 20% below 1990 levels by 2025. It was encouraging to hear, in Chris Skoglund's presentation to this commission, that there has been a drop in emissions from the electricity generation sector. However, it's clear that there continue to be challenges in fully implementing the 2009 plan. How will you ensure that this commission's work leads to full adoption and implementation? NH's 2009 Climate Action Plan listed 10 overarching strategies to reduce the state's GHG emissions. Are those strategies still relevant today? Where do they need to be updated? In NH's current political climate, which do you think are most feasible? Why? Thank you for your consideration,

Jessica Poulin

Candidate for MS: Sustainable Development and Climate Change

Antioch University New England

Kristen Thompson

Candidate for MS: International Sustainable Development and Climate Change

Community Engagement Specialist, Alliance for Youth Climate Leadership

Antioch University New England

Thu 10/1/2020 5:17 PM

Name: Marjorie Rogalski

I urge the members of my NH Emission Commission to consider how climate change and ever increasing GHG emissions are affecting our residents, wildlife and economy.

Please work across party lines and state lines to move toward renewable energy for all sectors and help create an economy with jobs in this sector for our unemployed and underemployed. NH trails other New England states in adopting renewable energy and creating clean energy jobs. Protect our health and help the economy!

Wed 11/11/2020 3:49 PM

Name: John Rooney

Emissions clearly have a link to public health and well-being as well as costs to the taxpayer. Continuing on the path we are isn't sustainable and will steal the very future from our children. The time for lower emissions and clean energy is now!

Thu 11/12/2020 8:26 AM

Name: Lin Hill

Good morning. Thank you for taking my comment. I work in the field of healthcare sustainability. Air quality, GHG emissions, and climate change all directly affect our health, and disproportionately affect those already the most at risk. In addition climate change will strongly affect our children's future. Please consider Lee Oxenham's bill that mimics the IPCC targets, including 20% reductions by 2025 (from 1990 levels), 35% reductions by 2035, and Net Zero emissions by 2050.

Thu 11/12/2020 3:22 PM

Name: Dave Robba, Senior Associate - State Policy , Ceres

Here is the NHBSR link that shows the principles and member logos: <https://nhbsr.org/programs-services/advocacy/new-hampshire-clean-energy-principles>

The accompanying Ceres press release with company quotes is linked here: <https://www.ceres.org/news-center/press-releases/new-hampshire-business-leaders-call-smart-clean-energy-policy-and>

11/12/2020 4:34 PM

Name: Kristen Thompson

Hello, On behalf of a cohort of graduate students from Antioch University New England in Keene, who are studying environmental science and climate change, I would like to submit a video presentation for the extended public comment period. Thank you for your consideration, Kristen Thompson Candidate for MS: International Sustainable Development and Climate Change Community Engagement Specialist, Alliance for Youth Climate Leadership Antioch University New England. (I have a two-minute video to submit for the extended public comment period for tonight's meeting. Thank you!)