

COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 8, 2015 (10:00 am – 12 noon)

I. Welcome

Kimberly Wasserman – Chairman

II. Introductions

A. Teleconference

- Commissioner Millard Driskell
- Commissioner Keith Harley
- Joe Mitchell – Illinois DPH
- Commissioner Diane Lopez Hughes
- Commissioner Cheryl Johnson
- Christine Nannicelli – Sierra Club

B. Videoconference Chicago

- Commissioner Kim Wasserman, Chairman
- Commissioner Keith Harley
- Sharonda Williams-Tack – Sierra Club
- Delia Barajas – Citizen from Cicero
- Julianna ? – LVEJO
- Commissioner Veronica Kyle

C. Videoconference Springfield

- Ken Page - Illinois EPA
- Stephon Bishop – Illinois EPA
- Chris Pressnall – Illinois EPA
- Kevin Greene – Illinois EPA
- Commissioner Brenda Carter
- Jim Ross – Illinois EPA
- Jennifer ? – Illinois People Action
- Louis ? – Illinois People Action

III. Approval of Agenda (electronic copy)

- Moved by – Ken Page
- Second- Commissioner Driskell
Motion carried

IV. Approval of the Minutes

July 14, 2015 (electronic copy)

- Moved by – Commissioner Driskell
- Second – Joe Mitchell
Motion carried

V. Old Business

A. 2015 Annual Report to the Governor and Legislative Leaders

Motion made to accept the report with the necessary corrections and send to the Governor and Legislative Leaders.

- Moved by – Commissioner Driskell
- Second – Commissioner Carter

Motion carried

B. Open Meetings Act training – All Commissioners will need to complete the on-line Open Meetings Act training. The link will be emailed..

C. Ethics Training – All Commissioners will need to complete the Ethics training. The link will be emailed.

D. The link to the **Illinois EPA’s Document Explorer Tool** will be sent emailed and training for the Document Explorer Tool will be on the agenda for the next commission meeting.

VI. Presentations/Discussions:

A. Clean Power Plan by Kevin Greene and Jim Ross – The Governor’s Office has not taken a stated position on the Clean Power Plan; The Illinois EPA is having two to three meetings a week stakeholders to hear their ideas and concerns; The Illinois EPA is reviewing all compliance option in the Clean Power Plan; The Illinois haven’t been given the green light to go for the Clean Power Plan; The Illinois EPA is monitoring what other states are doing with/for stakeholders meetings, etc.; the Illinois EPA is part of a multi-state coordination;

Stakeholder Outreach draft outline discussion

- a. Listening sessions – Pennsylvania drafted a set of questions for stakeholders to respond to
- b. Strategic Planning process
- c. Steering committee to finalize the stakeholder process
- d. Because of the budget impasse, things have slowed with the Clean Power Plan

B. Discussion on EJ outreach and the Clean Power Plan

Diane Lopez Hughes

- collaboration is going to be essential to making things work
- People of Color should be sensitive to the issues that may arise
- Need to include non-traditional people at the table when there is a discussion on EJ and the Clean Power Plan

Veronica Kyle

- Faith communities have an EJ mandate. Community engagement by Green Teams; Faithful citizens workshops.
- Meetings can be held at the Church’s in the fellowship Halls, etc.

Diane Lopez Hughes

- Need to include people who are not part of religious organizations

Millard Driskell

- The Prince Hall Masons can be with the outreach as well. Helping to spread the word/information.

Kim Wasserman

- Mailings from the Illinois EPA sometimes fall on deaf ears. Find these local communities and make them a part of the conversation.

Jennifer ? – IPA

- The Illinois People Action have small delegations in their chapters throughout Illinois

- Robust and meaningful engagement

Delia Barajas

- They have railyard issues in Cicero

Kim Wasserman

- How do we get robust communication throughout Illinois?

Diane Lopez Hughes

- Wants the group to come together and discuss the Clean Power Plan.

Millard Driskell

- Concurs with Diane and think that they should get together.

Jim Ross

- September 6, 2016 is the deadline to submit a plan.
- Late January of early February for the group to provide comments/input.

Kim Wasserman

- Does not want to put together a plan without the input from Illinois EPA. Needs Illinois EPA at the table.

Sharonda Williams-Tack

- Give people enough notice ...45 days not 30 days
- Consider smaller community meetings like those referenced in the Illinois EPA's EJ Public Participation Plan

Julianna ? – LVEJA

- Meaningful engagement for vulnerable communities
- Consider making information available in English and Spanish when necessary. Use Waukegan as an example.

Veronica Kyle

- They have a coordinator in the Waukegan area to interact with the Spanish speaking community.

Kevin Greene

- Very interested in the Best Practices that was mentioned by Julianna.

Keith Harley

- Has been following the litigation around the Clean Power Plan. The Illinois Attorney General had intervened on behalf of Illinois' Clean Power Plan. Wanted to know about the discussions between the Governor's Office and the Illinois Attorney General.
- Jim Ross informed all that we were not part of the discussion and do not have enough information to talk about what was discussed between the Gov and AGO.

Kim Wasserman

- We are in need of a Clean Power Plan web portal.

Veronica Kyle

- Need to create a Community Engagement Mapping System

VII. Open Discussion/Questions

- None

VIII. Next meeting date and location

- To be determined for 1st Quarter of 2016 for EJ Commission meeting
- Wednesday, February 3rd, 2016 @ 1:30 pm for the EJ groups to discuss the Clean Power Plan with Illinois EPA. Videoconference conference in Springfield and Chicago.

IX. Adjournment

- 11:48 pm.