

Updating New Hampshire's Climate Action Plan

CROSS-SECTOR STAKEHOLDERS

Gathering 3

Online via Zoom

FEBRUARY 8, 2024

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM



**University of
New Hampshire**

Carsey School of Public Policy



Welcome – Thank you for being here!

New Hampshire Listens is working on behalf of the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to [design and facilitate community engagement](#)—an essential component of NH's Priority and Comprehensive Climate Action Plans

We are here today to hear from you!



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A FEW REMINDERS...

We have formatted today to gather input from you and our time will move quickly.



- Mute in large group
- If possible, cameras ON during small group breakouts.
- You are welcome to listen.
- Use chat for responses and resources
- *Message Mikayla - NH Listens for tech assistance*
- Group Agreements:
 - Listen to others and share air time.
 - Participate and be as fully present as you can.
 - Respect each other and our brief time together.

Broad Goals for Cross-Sector Stakeholder Gatherings

- Guide and inform the update of NH's Climate Action Plan by talking together about the priorities and essential projects groups of people can undertake and/or are undertaking together.
- Strengthen the connections that will support cross-sector, community-engaged groups/coalitions/project partners who can move forward with implementation of key priorities in NH communities with an effort to focus on [Justice40](#) investments to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions in some of our most affected communities.
- Share what we're learning and hearing from community engagement efforts and updates on the planning process and reporting.



Today's Agenda:

- **3:00pm:** Welcome
- Spotlight: Priority Climate Action Plan Update
- Small Group Breakouts - NHDES floats
- Q & A based on small group breakouts and chat
- **4:30pm:** Close



What we're hearing from in person community engagement events



What priority projects will reduce emissions where you live, work, learn, and play?

Themes:

- Recognizing ongoing efforts and how to include them in NH's statewide plan
- Promoting education and awareness to generate community buy-in
- Focus on equitable allocation of resources

Workforce Development
Infrastructure Changes
Education and Outreach
Focus on Communities in Need
And Much more!

Greenhouse Gas Sectors

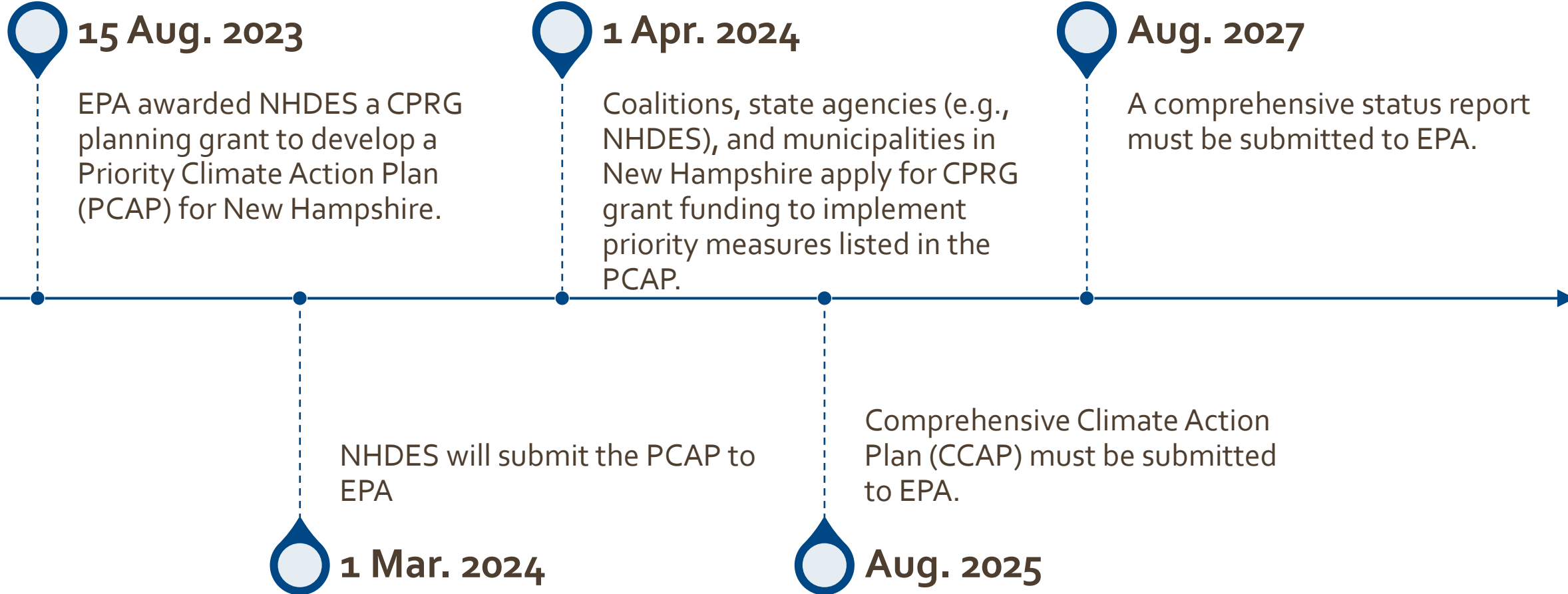
- Transportation
- Electricity generation and/or use and Industry
- Commercial and residential buildings
- Natural and working lands and Agriculture
- Waste and materials management and Wastewater



Updating NH's Climate Action Plan - An opportunity for New Hampshire:

- NH was granted federal funding in August to update NH's Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The four-year program runs **2023 - 2027**.
- Community engagement is an essential component to update NH's Climate Action Plan
- NH will identify priority projects by (*March 1, 2024*) to apply for implementation funds available from the federal government (*April 1, 2024*) to move projects forward here in NH!

Over the course of the four-year program running to 2027:



Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency seeks to achieve three broad objectives:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions while supporting the creation of good jobs and lowering energy costs for families.
- Empower community-driven solutions in neighborhoods overburdened from pollution and impacts of climate change by directly seeking input from those communities.
- Deliver cleaner air by reducing harmful air pollution in places where people live, work, play, and go to school.





Updating NH's Climate Action Plan

These plans are part of [the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant \(CPRG\) funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.](#)

They lead to implementation funding that will support **community-engaged projects** with an effort to focus on [Justice 40 investments](#) among the sectors of air pollution and greenhouse gas reductions.

If you have specific questions about the grant funding, **reach out to the NHDES CPRG Team. Share your thoughts with the team:**
cprg@des.nh.gov

The Priority Climate Action Plan or PCAP (the next required NH DES deliverable for US EPA)



**PCAP Components:
What's required?
What's occurring?**



The Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) must include:

- ✓ A Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory;
- ✓ Quantified GHG reduction measures;
- ✓ A low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDAC) benefits analysis;
- ✓ A review of authority to implement

What's
required?

The Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) must also include:

- ✓ GHG projections
- ✓ GHG reduction targets
- ✓ A benefits analysis (the full geographic scope and population covered by the plan)
- ✓ A plan for leveraging other federal funding
- ✓ A workforce planning analysis.

PCAP Requirements:

- ✓ A GHG inventory;
- ✓ Quantified GHG reduction measures;
- ✓ A low-income and disadvantaged communities' benefits analysis; and
- ✓ A review of authority to implement

What's required?
Encouraged?

Encouraged additional PCAP analyses:

- GHG reduction targets;
- A benefits analysis (for the full geographic scope and population covered by the plan);
- A plan for leveraging other federal funding; and
- A workforce planning analysis.

A PCAP may draw from or reference an existing climate action plan or plans for the geographic area covered, such as an existing state climate, energy, or sustainability plan.

Climate Action Plan National Components and Guidance – What's required and encouraged?

Conveners Network PCAP Template (January 2024)

1. Introduction
 2. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Inventory
 3. < Emissions Projections and Reduction Targets >

 1. Priority Measures
 2. < Benefits Analysis >
 3. LIDAC Benefits Analysis
 4. Review of Authority to Implement
 5. < Intersection with Other Funding Availability >
 6. < Workforce Planning Analysis >
 7. Coordination and Outreach
 8. Conclusion
- < encouraged but optional >

DRAFT Priority Climate Action Plan Guidance: An Outline for States and MSAs (December 2023)

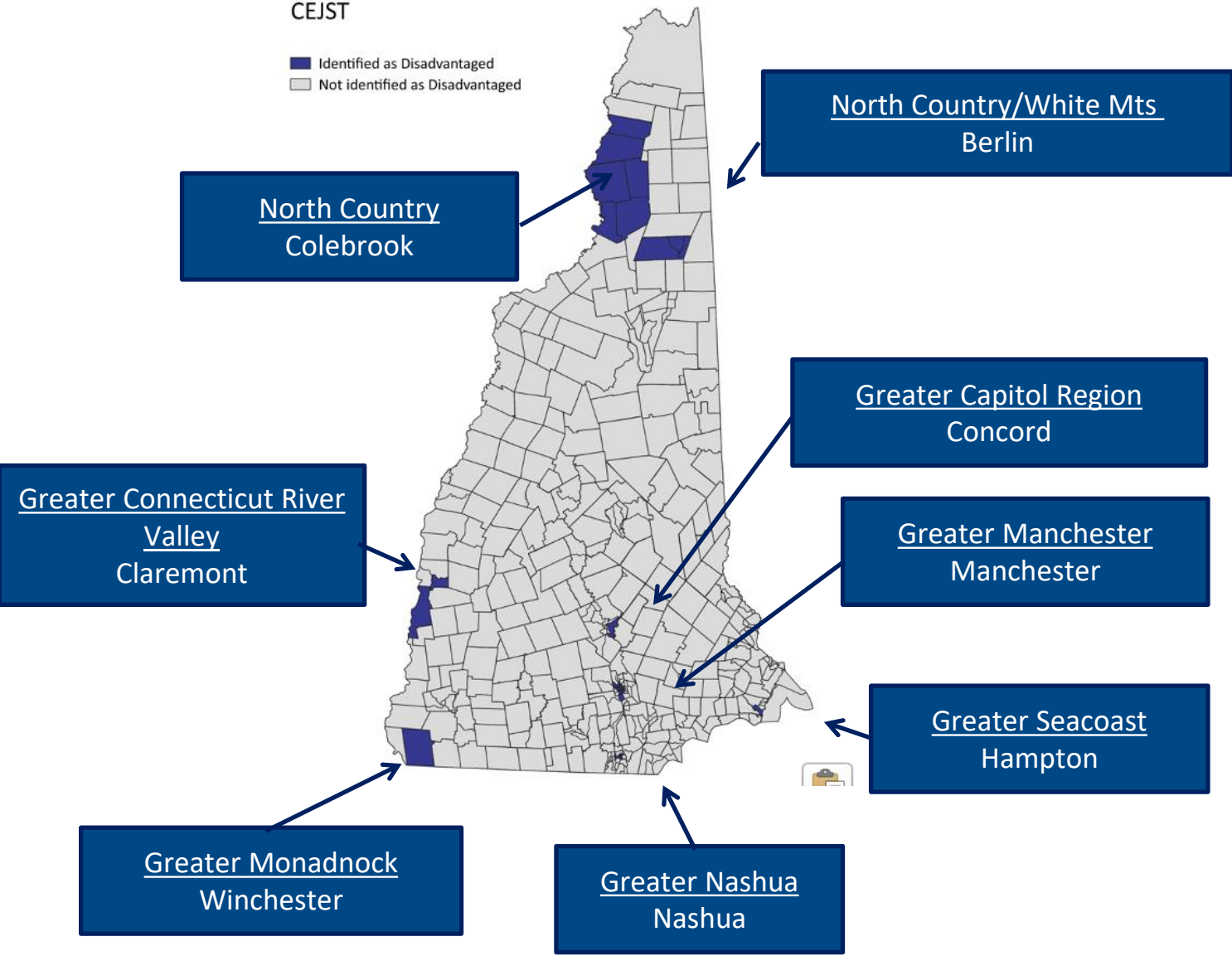
1. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory
 2. < GHG Emissions Projections >
 3. < GHG Reduction Targets >
 4. GHG Reduction Measures
 5. < Benefits Analysis >
 6. LIDAC Benefits Analysis
 7. Review of Authority to Implement
 8. < Intersection with Other Funding Availability >
 9. < Workforce Planning Analysis >
- < optional, but required for CCAP >

NH Listens / NHDES Community Engagement



CEJST

- Identified as Disadvantaged
- Not identified as Disadvantaged



Jan/Feb In-person events

- Concord - Tuesday, Jan 16, 5pm
- Hampton – Wednesday, Jan 17, 5:30pm
- Nashua - Thursday, Jan 18, 5pm
- Claremont – Thursday, Jan 25, 5:30pm
- Winchester - Thursday, Jan 25, 6pm
- Berlin – Wednesday, Jan 31, 5pm
- Manchester – Thursday, Feb 1, 5pm
- Colebrook - Wednesday, Feb 7, 5pm

Statewide online community conversations

- December 6 | 4:30 PM
- January 9 | 5 PM
- January 24 | 6:30 PM

Statewide Cross-Sector Stakeholder Meetings

- November 30, 2023 | 2:30 PM
- January 11, 2024 | 3:30 PM
- February 8, 2024 | 3 PM

Implementation Grant Goals

- EPA anticipates approximately 30 to 115 grants under this; range \$2 to \$500 million each
- We seek your help identifying the ***near-term, high-priority, implement ready*** projects in NH to apply for federal funding this spring
- Focused on:
 - Projects, not policy
 - Emissions reduction
 - Implementation ready

<https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/about-cprg-implementation-grants>

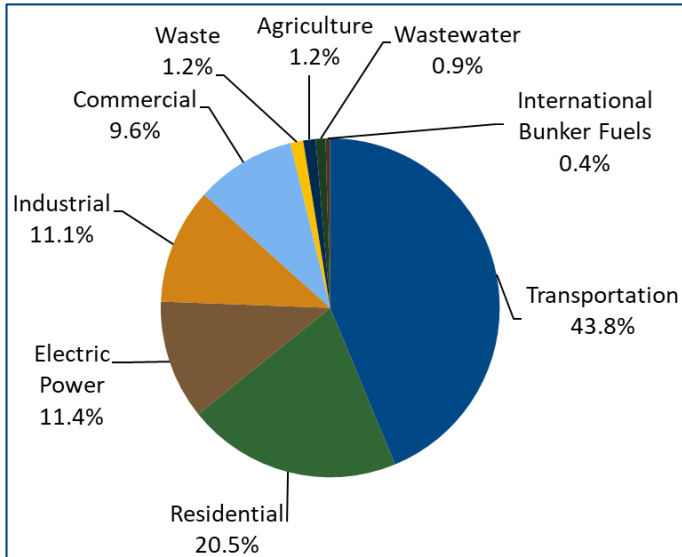
Goals include:

- Implement ambitious measures that will achieve significant reductions by 2030 and beyond;
- Pursue measures that will achieve substantial community benefits by reducing air pollutants, particularly in low-income and disadvantaged communities;
- Complement other funding sources to maximize GHG reductions and community benefits;
- Pursue innovative policies and programs that are replicable and can be “scaled up” across multiple jurisdictions.

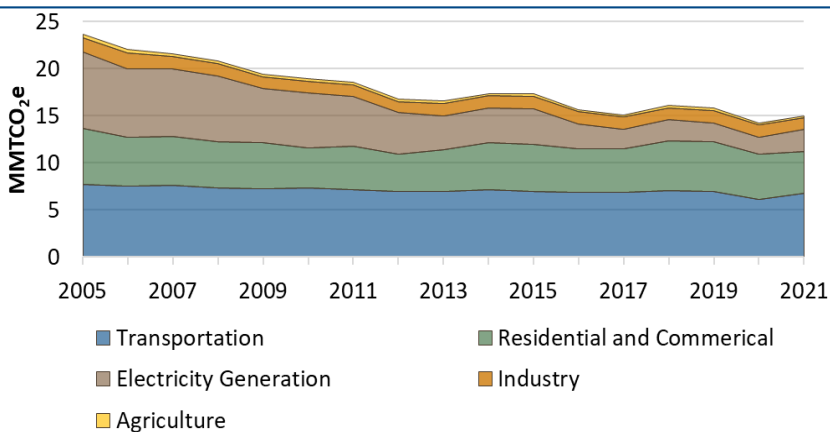


What We're Hearing and Learning

New Hampshire's GHG Emissions by Economic Sector (%)



- ✓ NH Emissions - two biggest sectors were Transportation and Buildings
- ✓ Reducing NH Emissions – progress lags behind our neighboring states.
- ✓ Engagement Events – lots of interest in Transportation, Buildings, and Electric Power
- ✓ PCAP measures - Transportation and Residential Building Sectors are the highest priority.
- ✓ One of the main barriers identified to implementing these measures is workforce numbers, making Workforce Development another top priority.



[Notice of Request for Public Comment - Draft Measures for New Hampshire's Priority Climate Action Plan \(nh.gov\)](#)



Priority Measures for the PCAP

Sector	Priority Measure	Description
Transportation	Deploy Public Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure	Install EV charging stations with an emphasis on access and affordability for underserved communities (e.g., multi-unit rental properties) and to fill EV charging gaps in New Hampshire.
	Expand Public Transportation options	Increase access to clean, public transportation options, including expanding existing transit fleets to better serve disadvantaged populations and, where feasible, transition to zero emission transit options.
	Incentives for Consumer Purchase of Electric Vehicles	Reduce upfront costs of EV purchases by providing rebates to consumers with a focus on providing incentives to low-income, disadvantaged communities.
Residential Building	Pre-Weatherization of Residential Buildings	Create or scale up existing incentive programs to pre-weatherize residential buildings by conducting structural repairs and home health remediation. These repairs will allow previously deferred low-income households to access incentives for weatherization, efficiency, electrification, and renewables.
	Weatherization of Residential Buildings	Create or scale up existing incentive programs to weatherize residential buildings by upgrading the envelope of buildings or their heating, cooling, and electrical systems to improve energy efficiency, health, safety, and comfort, while also providing cost-effective energy savings.
	Heat-Pumps Incentives	Provide incentives to drive increased adoption of energy efficient, residential heat pumps for space and water heating. This may include actions such as customer purchase incentives, mid-stream supplier incentives, workforce development activities, and activating consumer demand.
Transportation and Residential Building	Workforce Development of Skilled Trades	Provide incentives to reduce barriers to stimulate high-quality workforce development activities tied to New Hampshire's other proposed measures that would benefit individuals in low-income and disadvantaged communities. Funding would help prepare individuals for high-quality, middle-skill career pathways that enable economic mobility, rather than short-term, low-wage jobs.

The list of measures is constantly being updated

- Feb 5, 2024 - NHDES Public Notice (page 3)

NHDES is currently focused on the following, implementation-ready, draft priority measures for New Hampshire's PCAP. **However, as NHDES receives additional comments from organizations and residents of the Granite State, NHDES may modify these measures or incorporate other measures into the PCAP.** For each priority measure, EPA has required NHDES to include the following: an estimate of the quantifiable GHG emissions reductions, key implementing agency or agencies, implementation schedule and milestones, expected geographic location, milestones for obtaining legislative or regulatory authority as appropriate, identification of funding sources if relevant, and metrics for tracking progress.
- Jan 31, 2024 – NHDES submitted Notice Of Intent to apply for implementation grant process
 - Optional, non-binding, but requested
 - Included Primary Measures in Public Notice as well as two new categories for Expanding Public Transportation Options and Expanding Accessibility of Existing Roadways to pedestrians and non-vehicle modes of travel
 - Estimated \$45 million
- Feb 5, 2024 – CPRG team received shovel ready project ideas and additional funding sources from elsewhere within NHDES (Divisions)
- Engagement events are ongoing and notes being compiled
- Ideas are coming in through the CPRG email account



In Summary: NH PCAP Components

- GHG Inventory (NHDES)
- Summary of Priority Measures (NHDES)
- Measures by Sector (NHDES)
- Authority to Implement Measures; distribute funds, enter into coalitions/partnerships (NHDES/State of NH)
- LIDAC analysis: performance indicators, benefits, projections (Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM))
- Coordination and Outreach (NH Listens)

Small Group Breakouts



Directions

- Zoom magic will bring you to a breakout
- One, 30 min. facilitated session
- Facilitator will guide you through questions
- We want to hear from everyone!
- Group agreements - Share airtime please!

Focus questions:

1. What last comments and suggestions do you want NHDES to hear before the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?
2. What does meaningful engagement look like going forward?
3. What remaining questions do you have for NHDES at this point in the process?

Small Groups Notes – Slides 24-41

These are raw notes taken by facilitators during the session and later themed and summarized in the online community engagement report. Not all notes meet the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant or Priority Climate Action Plan Criteria. They are to inform the NHDES team as they write the plans using a community-engaged approach.



Small Group 1 Notes - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- How will NH DES navigate these priority actions as potential legislative actions are introduced that go against these actions?
- I hope that NH DES will continue to do outreach to towns, Conservation Commissions, Regional Planning Commissions etc
- I'd like to see the state move aggressively to build out its potential network of rail trails.
- NHDOT is also starting to develop a Complete Streets policy that should over time create safer streets for pedestrians and cyclists. Can this EPA funding work in concert with their plans?
- Older, multi-family housing stock - how are we considering indoor air quality within weatherization plans?

Small Group 1 Notes (a) - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- Affordable housing needs - how can we support renters within the PCAP actions?
- Clean energy replacements for the coal plant in Bow
- I'd like to see Active Transportation be added as a Priority Measure. NH owns 330 miles of abandoned rail corridor plus another 100 miles of private owned abandoned rail corridor. Making the state abandoned rail corridor into an active transportation network will meet the NHDES climate action plan objectives.
- Ways to incentivize the weatherization and heating/cooling solutions to landlords so that it's a benefit to them rather than a cost

Small Group 1 Notes - What does meaningful engagement look like going forward?

- Substantive context is needed to give meaningful input
- Public Outreach to the specifically affected parties and consultation with experts in the field for each project
- Leveraging what is learned in each project for future projects
- Using each project as an education opportunity for students - getting student engagement into the projects

Small Group 2 Notes - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- Having incentives for energy audits in their homes; providing relevant trainings and education for professionals to provide alternatives recommendations to heatings at homes; existing home programs are regulated by the Department of Energy
 - Donut hole for low- and middle-income community members cannot afford to take advantage of these programs; there is a roles for targeted incentives to make these programs more feasible (landlords may hold up this progress)\
- Glad to see that targets are a part of the Comprehensive Plan
- Provide more resources to state Climatology Office; need to study how climate change is affecting NH, scientific role is important to education and resiliency work
- Grant structure: EPA is looking for bigger, coalition-based projects; some towns are lacking in capacity, but are good candidates for projects proposed re: renewable energy - how do we scale up projects that can be supported by the grid

Small Group 2 Notes - What does meaningful engagement look like going forward?

- Public information sessions around the CPAP
- Having a local, coalition-based and state-based partner to ensure robust participation for in-person event
- Coastline gets support for coastal resilience; think about upper-watershed needs and potential support
- State utilities have a role to play, energy efficiency programs and related initiatives; how to engage utility companies and stakeholders
- See New England Energy Partnership (NEEP)

Small Group 3 Notes - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- What can NH do to make EVs more available/affordable (passenger, commercial, vehicle)? Green transportation? **Infrastructure** to support?
- More coordination/improvement of public transportation in metro areas/Southern NH and public awareness of public transportation
- How will these decisions impact a larger residential renting community?
- Updating energy codes for buildings (public/ commercial). Must stay current!
- Being underwater on seacoast. Fortify against flooding/ be flood resilient. Be proactive vs. reactive. Example: Funding to lift houses
- Stronger weather events/storms (wind/ micro bursts). Code requirements are inadequate for temp structures. OSHA data is outdated (from 1950s). Codes are out of date.
- More incentives of energy assistance! Keep Programs like NH Saves.
- If we can reduce sprawl we can reduce how far people travel. Need more density and good public transit. (NH is a rural state)

Small Group 3 Notes (a) - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- Change fleets of commercial vehicles to EVs vs. individ. Passenger cars. Bulk discounts!
- Same with pursuing college campus buildings, gov/town building, and commercial buildings
- Community solar programs vs only those who can afford on their own homes.
- More publicly available charging stations for a variety of income levels and tourists/visitors
- Don't underestimate pilot programs! We need buy-in from local communities. Encourage additional funding.
- In NH, we are behind on carbon reduction. Majority heating with Oil/Fossil Fuels.
- How do we stack up on a per capita basis? Compare across region
- Keep Our natural resources/ treasures in mind as the process moves ahead

Small Group 3 Notes - What does meaningful engagement look like going forward?

- Elevate NH voices (local business, community groups, residents)
- Continue the NH Listens process
- Talk about our values. What do we need to protect and where can we compromise?

Small Group 4 Notes - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- Move forward on transportation and heating and cooling in Keene
- Storm damage
- Focus on expanding public transportation and public electric vehicle charging stations to/in rural areas
- Building support in NH for climate policies
- Replacing older systems with new systems with better filtration
- Be broader in goals such as including heat pumps
- Addition of rail trails and recreation pathways offroad (off busy roads)
- Ways to deliver renewable thermal energy (networked geothermal in Keene - Works in more populated areas)
- Finding funding for not for profits is difficult
- Helping communities help update codes around building and energy

Small Group 4 Notes - What does meaningful engagement look like going forward?

- Build in education and buy in
- Addressing the current impact of climate change
- Explaining how the improvements on infrastructure will benefit community infrastructure resilience (through storms)
- How do we get people on board to these large scale ideas
- Going directly to the implementers to gauge if they have the scope to take on more work, rather than rely on them to come to these community conversations

Small Group 5 Notes - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- Convey to EPA that NH has restricted funding around transportation - need for public transit funding, etc. Communicate NH's conditions around transportation to EPA
- Transportation reccos - good. Short term, reduce emissions automobile and energy - if we get funding to enforce speed limits this could help. Efficiency of automobiles - consuming more fuel and creating more emissions. Impacts on highway areas, Manchester e.g. Adding solar to houses after weatherization projects in example project in Australia. Same pop size as NH
- Transportation as big focus, electric vehicle, lack of charging stations in NH, advocating for policies, visitors from elsewhere coming to NH how to we address reducing transportation emissions? Keep an eye on economies reliant on tourism (transportation)
- Transportation - walk and bike infrastructure needed. Micro-mobility options. E-scooters. Rec activities incorporating non-emissions transportation / outdoor rec. Rail trail network in NH transportation corridors, and rec opportunities.

Small Group 5 Notes (a) - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- Not seeing Agriculture as much as would like to see, but understand because it is a small contributor to emissions BUT 2023 was an outlier year. Opportunities here to help farms staying in business. NH farms as small businesses with residential homes on the farm - allow them to access opportunities
- Coordinate with elected officials - to highlight the effort we've made in this project - to gain attention and access maybe greater amounts. Federal grants are discretionary decisions - get connected!
- PCAP - competitiveness and drawing funds. NH doesn't have co-funded or match funding. NH may need to go for at a higher request.
- Connecting with youth education and workforce development at the local level - What are the specific projects?

Small Group 5 Notes - What does meaningful engagement look like going forward?

- Small groups, zoom, talking together, suggest less overview of grant info - more engagement and time hearing from NH stakeholders
- Internal engagement with DES - how do they want to structure the dollars out the door once they come from EPA
- External engagement - develop those relationships when and how with the NH funders and municipalities - NOW! Ex. with EV fleets and equipment
- NH DOT - electric vehicle connections

Small Group 6 Notes - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- I'm in Manchester, which has a lot of very old multifamily housing stock, with direct relationship to Justice40 - implications. Most are privately owned, non-owner occupied. Improvements to these structures present many challenges compared with owner-occupied properties. Getting a viable approach in place may take too long, if there is one. My largest concern is that rents are not increased as result of improvements.
- Is there a group who will be putting together a grant application to assist mobile/modular home parks throughout the state with energy efficiency measures? NH Community Loan Fund is working with mobile/modular home parks, along with ROC USA.
<https://communityloanfund.org/> and <https://rocusa.org/>

Small Group 6 Notes (a) - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- Has NHDES reached out to rail trails in general and trail organizations as part of this conversation
- Long-term - Carbon fee and dividends - putting a price on pollution - some funding goes back to the goes back to the people in communities
- Public School Bus electrification as a priorities
- North Country work: Working with schools and teachers - money for projects within schools and for schools to work on whatever in the school they want to (compost systems, waste) ___ ECAP in the North County champions for fuel, foods, fashion, floods, flora, fauna – teachers and students working on climate action projects – more money to this type of work
- Agriculture - climate resiliency grant is already in place – helping farmers adapting to climate change and stressors - if the money can be used in this way that would be helpful – farmers have had a lot of agency (3-year project - with all conservation districts in NH)

Small Group 6 Notes (b) - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- Tamworth - Looking toward community power and building a solar farm, linking with citizens climate lobby – supporting US congressional bills
- Thermal energy and energy efficiency is a big concern, especially in older homes, resources need to be allocated to this. Would like to see a focus in communities as groups, year by year working through each neighborhood and moving toward a systematic approach. Target community area needs.
- Claremont - low income and moderate income - there is a big concern about the grid in Claremont and how much it could hold with solar generation. Improve the grid first and then incentivize low and middle income home owners to install solar panels, use sugar river technical centers to help build the training program and workforce for these programs. Low income homeowners and section 8 house have incentive to weatherize and improve workforce at the same time.

Small Group 6 Notes (c) - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- NH Healthcare workers for climate action - how can we help children during this process? Thinking about the future and present. Focus on school busses, helping communities become activated to apply for the implementation funding. Education and afterschool programs and parent education in schools are currently be completed.
- Transportation and energy – Unitil and Eversource put in for RFP with EPA but were not funded. Heat Pumps, EV charging stations.
- The priority action plan is or should be multi-disciplinary: lift NH's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) up from the lowest in NE; support the big "30 by 30" goal of preserving 30% of all lands and oceans for nature; support the "Big Wires Act" which will speed up clean energy permitting; stand firm on supporting NEPA against the challenge in the Supreme Court; keep supporting rare & endangered species protections; and pass the Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act.

Small Group 6 Notes (d) - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- The NH Network has an active Plastics Working Group. We would welcome new attendees.
<https://www.newhampshirenetwork.org/working-groups/plastics-working-group>
- Please add landfill gas/methane capture to the list in addition to the elimination of gas flaring.
- NHDES WIEEP (Water infrastructure energy efficiency program) - provides comprehensive energy audits for wastewater and drinking water facilities - working on drinking water audits. Existing systems are very inefficient and need upgrades to improve treatment and pumping efficiency. The implementation of energy audit findings has been slow due to competing priorities with limited funding. The more grants we can access that don't require town meeting authorization will help projects move forward. We have lots of shovel ready projects ready to go.
- Hampton - Rockingham planning commission focused on economic and quality of water and air and focused in the marsh areas (largest marsh in the state), there is a lot upgrading in the marsh and coastal areas. As a commission member trying to understand the CPRG work and how to link that into RPC and local conversations about projects.

Small Group 6 Notes (e) - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- I have a 'shovel-ready' proposal for your grant. Claremont is a low-income community. The median income is \$20k below the state's. It has a large stock of section eight housing. The Sugar River Valley Regional Tech Center is housed in Claremont. It has a building trades program. Currently, the city government limits the amount of electricity local generators can put on the grid. My proposal is to: Incentivize low-income homeowners and the owners of section eight housing to weatherize their structures, install solar generation mechanisms, and switch to electric heat. Add weatherization and solar installation to the SRVTC building trades program. Upgrade the local grid so that it can handle a greater amount of local power generation, there addressing the city's concerns. I hope you find this helpful. Please contact me if you would like additional information.
- Getting rid of single use plastics, bottle bill
- Transportation and energy - Unitil and Eversource filed proposals with the NH PUC. Unitil's was denied and Eversource's was approved in part (small). Unitil has interest in EV charging and high-performance heat pumps.

Small Group 6 Notes (f) - What thoughts and suggestions do you want NHDES to keep in mind as the Priority Climate Action Plan is submitted to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

- Greener public transit, limiting the flaring and burning methane. Waste water biogas digesters treatment plants - need DHG combined heating and power.
- Working with churches to install geotherming heating
- We should also be working to close the last coal-fired power plant in NH: Merrimack.
- Here's a little more information in case you are interested in learning about CHICKs:
<https://www.nhclimatehealth.org/chicks>
- Water infrastructure energy efficiency program - drinking and waste water - Linking to water efficiency and drinking water in the state - working on drinking water audits. We need more efficient systems. Shovel ready projects are plentiful but they are challenging to implement when the authority to borrow is limited.
- Thinking about community power - town moving in Hopkinton.

Small Group 6 Notes - What does meaningful engagement look like going forward?

- In the planning for exercising the application - see where the complementary needs and synergies are for projects and implementation applications.
- Incentive programs

We Heard from You and Others Statewide!



The next seven slides are from the brainstormed actions collected during engagement events. The content listed are several examples of eligible projects to inform your conversations:

- Focused Greenhouse Gas reduction by Sector
- Near-term
- Implementable

These were placed on each table with the works that included the prompt questions from slide 23

TRANSPORTATION Examples

- Bulk purchase of electric vehicle supply equipment for towns and other municipal and local entities (e.g. public schools)
- Build more public electric vehicle charging stations; address EVSE needs of renters (i.e. community charging)
- General funding opportunities for public transportation, including bus transit
- Infrastructure for low emission transit, like bike lanes and rail trails
- Incentives to deploy electric charging infrastructure for commercial medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles
- Electric school bus program
- Electrification of light-duty, municipal fleets

ELECTRICITY GENERATION & INDUSTRY Examples

- Install solar farms, as part of community power and storage systems
- Community Solar: Small and medium size community solar projects; community microgrids
- Small, local scale transmission upgrades across our grid
- Monitor heat loss and air quality on buildings and homes
- Provide electric vehicle charging stations, particularly in town and city centers
- Incentives for landlords to install electric vehicle charging stations and weatherization efforts, like solar and window replacement for rental units
- Support accessible bike-friendly routes
- Install geothermal heat pump-infrastructure in public buildings and schools

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS - Examples

- Incentives for building efficiency measures, like heat pumps, and weatherization
- Create opportunities for renters to secure effective approaches to heating, home energy, and EV charging; support work with landlords and tenants
- Solar on schools combined with infrastructure upgrades, like roof replacements
- Industry training for contractors, HVAC professionals*
- Increased assistance for multifamily dwelling conversions/similar smaller footprint living
- Funding for audits, like blower door tests, in residential single- and multi-unit dwellings
- Workforce development and training, including paid apprenticeships in weatherization; build out contractor capacity*
- Funding for EE enabling upgrades

NATURAL AND WORKING LANDS & AGRICULTURE - Examples

- Plant and maintain trees and plants in urban areas
- Provide access to cleaner transportation options and electrified farm equipment
- Incentivize sustainable forest practice
- Technical and financial support for community net zero efforts
- Small district heating and cooling
- Preserve wetlands and forests
- Support and promote net-zero energy in public buildings as a community approach
- Support green space: plant trees, utilize ecosystem services to reduce, capture carbon, etc.
- Maximize carbon storage and sequestration capabilities of forests
- Funding for land conservation

WASTE AND MATERIALS MANAGEMENT & WASTEWATER Examples

- Incentives for anaerobic digesters to recycle waste for energy back to grid
- Updating and replacing aging infrastructure to improve efficiency
- Incentives for anaerobic digesters of organic waste like food, water, ag byproducts
- Decarbonize and electrify buildings, including residential buildings
- Incentives and/or cost support for solar energy for town offices, schools, and homes
- Shifting to more efficient lighting, and other electrical uses
- Waste reduction and reuse (i.e., preventing waste from being generated in the first place)
- Recycling and waste diversion (i.e., avoiding disposal of items in a landfill or incinerator)

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT Examples

- Industry training for contractors, HVAC professionals.
- Build out contractor capacity.
- Other barriers in the path from training to licensure
- Barriers to licensure of skilled trades people
- Comprehensive training programs that include training such as <https://gridalternatives.org/get-training>
- Career Tech program needs and opportunities

LINKAGES TO PUBLIC HEALTH Examples

- Air quality concerns in urban areas and public transportation options such as walking, electrifying buses. Increasing public transportation will increase opportunity for social justice!
- Public transportation for NH
- Decarbonize and electrify buildings, including residential buildings
- Power Plants get placed in low-income disadvantaged communities – change this practice
- Supporting local farms
- Being able to provide communities with electricity. Installing solar farms to reduce costs in urban areas
- Heat pump incentives: multiple benefits decreasing carbon emissions, providing safe and healthy habitats
- Education: System where people can choose these processes instead
- Plant and maintain trees and plants in urban areas
- Showing people benefits of these projects

Q&A Based on Chat and Breakout Groups

What remaining questions do you have as we continue working together to update NH's Climate Action Plans?

- Where do existing EE programs fit in with these proposed projects/measures? Is this grant money going to be used to leverage RGGI and EE funding?
- Where do the energy efficiency programs fit in?
- Has there been any engagement or feedback from the legislatures?
- Considerations for smaller-scale EV charging infrastructure- can we establish charging stations smaller than the current requirements?
- Will there be movement towards transparency and simplicity in helping community members understand concepts like net metering?
- Will there be a focus for getting underserved communities and schools involved in the implementation of the projects for jobs?
- Who will be responsible for managing implementation funds for the projects?
- Why is weatherization in residential buildings prioritized over municipal buildings? Can we have a broader focus?

What remaining questions do you have as we continue working together to update NH's Climate Action Plans?

- How do we get Eversource come to the table to partner with these opportunities? PUC / Utilities where are they in the process
- HVIP - CORE - ENERGIIZE
- Examples of programs for fleet charging equipment California examples
- As NHDES leads this effort in the state, how are they going to ensure their authority and buy in to get the implementation funds to go where they are needed. Who is the central authority?
- What connections and conversations are being had with NH DOT? Esp. with EV. Are they going to receive funding from the implementation grants?
- Did the planning grant include funds to maintain organizing office and coordination of projects and state agencies as projects are (hopefully) implemented?
- Will these federal funds be able to serve as match for other federal grants? Lots of 80/20 transportation grants in play but the 20% match can be a problem.

What remaining questions do you have as we continue working together to update NH's Climate Action Plans? Cont.

- So, NH will make sub grants out?
- Is there a group who will be putting together a grant application to assist mobile/modular home parks throughout the state with energy efficiency measures?
- Should we be settling for the historic norm when developing a statewide funding request?
- How are we coordinating these large picture projects
- Can these EV charging stations be able to charge E-bikes?
- Another question is whether it is much costlier to electrify in NH vs states where its warmer OR where a larger portion of the buildings are more modern and whether this should factor into grant allotment
- A question for the PCAP team: how does NH per capita emissions compare to other states? California has way more population, but NH's per capita emissions is much higher maybe it is a good argument for why NH should receive more funding proportionately than it has in the past
- After funds are applied for - then what happens? How are funds distributed? How will businesses, municipalities apply for funds? What's the process and how will it be communicated.
- How is this implementation grant connecting with current programs for energy efficiency and renewable energy in low-income housing? (Dept Energy program)

INVITE US to YOUR MEETINGS, GROUPS etc.

We are ready to come to you as we move toward the Comprehensive Climate Action Planning Process.

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If you have specific questions or comments about the grant or its requirements, process, and timing

email cprg@des.nh.gov

or

visit the project website.

<https://www.des.nh.gov/climate-and-sustainability/climate-change/climate-pollution-reduction-grants>



Thank you!



[Keep Learning about the Process](#)

Review the [Notice of Request for Public Comment: Draft Priority Measures for New Hampshire's Priority Climate Action Plan](#)

Community Engagement continues as a key piece of this work through the entire grant timeline

- Send comments and ideas to the NHDES CPRG team: cprg@des.nh.gov
- [Provide Additional Feedback Post-Event](#)
- Invite us to your meetings, workgroups etc. We are keeping a list and strategizing for future engagement
- [Learn more about engagement and see registration links for events](#)