



The Climate Registry

## Canada and U.S. Sub-national Climate Action Updates

The following updates from members of The Climate Registry's Council of Jurisdictions - delivered at the October 19, 2020, meeting – provide a snapshot of sub-national climate action in North America.

### **Alberta [Justin Wheler, Executive Director of Climate Implementation Compliance, Alberta Environment and Parks]**

- Alberta's Technology Innovation and Emissions Reduction (TIER) regulation, the ETS for large emitters which make up about 60% of emissions, came into effect as of January 1, 2020.
- Alberta announced \$750 million in funding for climate-related programming as part of the broader economic recovery plan, with a significant focus on clean technology deployment
- Alberta also announced updated methane regulations for oil and gas, and has achieved "equivalency" with the federal regulations. Alberta is seeing significant reductions in oil and gas methane emissions from a combination of regulations, funding programs and emissions offsets for sites that make emissions reductions beyond requirements.

### **BC [Chris Gilmore, Executive Director, Climate Partnerships and Engagement Branch]**

- Under economic recovery measures in '[Stronger BC](#),' the province focussed on climate programs and funding such as:
  - Enhanced incentives for medium- and heavy-duty commercial zero emission vehicle innovation and adoption;
  - A new center for innovation and growth, emphasizing clean fuels in BC; and,
  - Wetlands and ecosystem conservation.

### **California [Mary Nichols, Chair, California Air Resources Board]**

- Government blue ribbon task force is completing recommendations focused on infrastructure, transportation, electrification, hydrogen fuel cells.
- California is turning over light-duty fleet and building out a strong network of public/private charging.
- Government-issued executive orders are directing CARB to develop a regulatory program to get to a 100% zero-emission vehicles sales mandate by 2035.

### **Colorado [Clay Clarke, Head, Climate Change Unit, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment]**

- Colorado released a draft [GHG reduction roadmap](#) that builds on 26% percent GHG reduction below 2005 baseline: targets of 50% in 2030, 90% in 2050.
- Rules for transportation (California zero-emission vehicle standards) were released at the end of 2019.



The Climate Registry

- In 2020, Colorado adopted climate alliance framework for the phaseout of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

**Connecticut [Rebecca French, Director of the Office of Climate Planning]**

- Connecticut is developing recommendations for Governor Lamont on both emissions reductions (45% by 2030) and a state-wide adaptation and resilience plan.
- Adopted EV roadmap.
- Made largest procurement of offshore wind (will meet 14% of power needs once online in 2025) and, along with other NE region governors, looking at ISO New England grid decision-making.

**Hawai'i [Scott Glenn, Director, Office of Environmental Quality Control]**

- Governor signed an agreement to ban coal.
- Grandfathered utility tax credits for utility-scale solar.
- Introduced Climate-ready Vista program.

**Manitoba [Neil Cunningham, Director, Department of Science, Technology, Energy and Mines]**

- A new crown corporation (Efficiency Manitoba) is in place responsible for energy demand side management programs.
- Manitoba has increased its renewable fuels mandate (ethanol and biodiesel).
- Phased out natural gas facility.
- New hydro coming online.

**Maryland [Ben Grumbles, Secretary of the Environment]**

- Maryland is finalizing its economy-wide greenhouse gas reduction plan by the end of the year to reduce emissions by at least 40% by 2030 and achieve its 100% clean electricity by 2040 plan.
- Working with the other 15 states and DC to develop a strategy to implement the national MHD ZEV MoU (signed July 14, 2020) in the transportation sector, and the other 11 northeast and mid- Atlantic states and DC to complete a final MoU for potential signature in December 2020 of the Transportation and Climate Initiative.
- Working on the implementation of an Offshore Wind Partnership among the governors of Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina (signed October 29, 2020).

**Massachusetts [Will Space, Senior Technical Advisor for Climate Programs, Department of Environmental Protection]**

- Massachusetts is working on a project to set up a binding limit for GHGs under the Global Warming Solutions Act for 2030.
- Expanding state electricity policies – finalized clean peak standard.
- Finalized policy that extends clean energy policy to existing nuclear and hydro.



The Climate Registry

**Minnesota [Laura Bishop, Commissioner, Pollution Control Agency]**

- Implementing Minnesota's December 2019 Climate Change Executive Order (19-3) which established a Climate Change Subcabinet, a Governor's Advisory Council on Climate Change, and public engagement expectations for climate change policies and strategies.
- Completing the GHG emissions tracking report to measure progress towards the GHG emission reduction goal in Minnesota's Next Generation Energy Act.
- Continuing the rulemaking effort to adopt the Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) and Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) standards.

**New York [Maureen Leddy, Director, Office of Climate Change at NYS Department of Environmental Conservation]**

- New York recently posted final regulations around HFCs.
- Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act went into effect January 1.
- Heading to 85% GHG reduction in 2050 with goal of net zero.

**Nova Scotia [Jason Hollett, Executive Director, Sustainability and Applied Science Division]**

- Nova Scotia passed Sustainable Development Goals Act.
- New cap-and-trade program in place, first auction took place in June 2020.
- Climate Change plan for clean growth to be published in 2021.

**Oregon [Kristen Sheeran, Energy and Climate Policy Advisor to Governor Kate Brown]**

- Oregon is implementing the Governor's executive order on climate, with mandates to achieve science-based GHG reduction goals, involving 16 agencies.
- The executive order includes directives to double the low-carbon fuels standard, and cap and reduce GHG emissions from large emitters in Oregon.

**Pennsylvania [Patrick McDonnell, Secretary, Department of Environmental Protection]**

- Pennsylvania is joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).
- In September, passed draft rulemaking through the Environmental Quality Board. Anticipate this will be open for comment in early November.

**PEI [Todd Dupuis, Executive Director, Climate Change and Environment Division]**

- PEI has set an aspirational GHG target of net zero by 2040.
- New wind farm slated to begin construction this fall and two solar projects beginning construction in fall and spring.
- Plans underway to build the province's first fully electric school and ordered a number of electric school buses. Partnering with federal governments, municipal, industry to get chargers in place.



The Climate Registry

**Québec [Marc DeBlois, Expert Advisor at the Ministry of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change]**

- By 2020/21, CAD5.1 billion of funding from cap-and-trade revenues from the Green Fund will have been invested in different climate change projects. CAD6.8 billion will be invested by 2025.
- Quebec and California will hold their 25<sup>th</sup> joint auction in November 2020. This represents six years of close cooperation between the two governments to successfully manage carbon trading.
- Québec's Climate Change Framework Policy for 2020-2030 will be released by the end of the year. It will be accompanied by a five-year implementation plan which will be reviewed annually.
- Transportation's GHG emissions represent 43% of all the GHG emissions of the province. Québec is investing heavily in the electrification of transportation. Almost 45% of all EVs sold in Canada are in Québec. Québec provides incentives for the purchase or leasing of EVs and for the installation of charging stations.

**Rhode Island [Terry Gray, Deputy Director for Environmental Protection, Department of Environmental Management]**

- Governor issued an executive order for 100% renewables by 2050.
- Undertook a study on building renewable energy facilities in RI.
- Undertook a carbon fee study at the direction of legislature to understand how a fee structure can help meet RI's goals.

**Tennessee [Alexa Voytek, Energy Programs Administrator, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Office of Energy Programs]**

- Tennessee is focusing on reducing emissions from transportation via electrification.
- Published needs assessment for charging infrastructure and have a goal of 200,000 light-duty EVs in state by 2028.
- Working with TVA on EV infrastructure development.

**Vermont [Sarah Hofmann, Commissioner, Vermont Public Utility Commission]**

- Passed Global Warming Solutions Act, which requires reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, sets up a VT Climate Council, requires the Council to adopt a Climate Action Plan, the adoption of rules consistent with that Plan, and provides a cause of action if those rules are insufficient to achieve the required emission reductions.

**Yukon [Rebecca Turpin, Director, Climate Action Secretariat]**

- Launched Our Clean Future: a Yukon strategy for climate change, energy and a green economy, which sets a goal of reducing GHG emissions by 30% by 2030. YK's total GHG emissions will be net zero by 2050. The plan involves 15 different departments and corporations and multiple



The Climate Registry

actions across seven key areas. Implementing database management system so that Yukoners can keep up with the program over the years.