

Snohomish County Ad Hoc Climate Action Advisory Committee (CAAC)

Wednesday August 26, 2020

5pm-7pm

Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/97159629099?pwd=bINpMWNiTjNaYWVHYWVhWUNLVnVWQT09>

Meeting ID: 971 5962 9099

Password: 841003

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,97159629099#,,1#,841003# US (Tacoma)

Agenda

- 1. Roll-call** (5 min)
- 2. Updates** (5 min)
- 3. 'Energy 101'** – Snohomish PUD (40 min)
 - a. Presentation and time for questions
- 4. Plan Scan Report Out** (30 min)
 - a. Brief report of findings/key-takeaways from members that completed a local government climate action plan review
- 5. County Government GHGs and Reduction Targets** – Lisa & Kevin (20 min)
 - a. Update/snap-shot of GHG trends from County gov't operations
 - b. GHG reduction target discussion
- 6. Comprehensive Plan Update** – Tom (15 min)
 - a. GMA and climate change
 - b. [Project fact sheet](#)
 - c. [Get email updates](#)
- 7. Other Discussion Items** (5 min)

AGENDA ITEM #5: County GHG Reduction Target – Discussion Guide

1. **Paris Climate Agreement¹** (December 12, 2015)
 - a. The Paris Agreement central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius
2. **IPCC – 5th Assessment** (Climate Change 2014 - Synthesis Report Summary For Policymakers)
 - a. More unlikely than likely that a 41-72% reduction by 2050 will result in staying under 1.5 degrees C temperature increase

Table SPM.1 | Key characteristics of the scenarios collected and assessed for WGIII AR5. For all parameters the 10th to 90th percentile of the scenarios is shown*. (Table 3.1)

CO ₂ -eq Concentrations in 2100 (ppm CO ₂ -eq) ^f	Subcategories	Relative position of the RCPs ^d	Change in CO ₂ -eq emissions compared to 2010 (in %) ^c		Likelihood of staying below a specific temperature level over the 21st century (relative to 1850–1900) ^e			
			2050	2100	1.5°C	2°C	3°C	4°C
<430	Only a limited number of individual model studies have explored levels below 430 ppm CO ₂ -eq ¹							
450 (430 to 480)	Total range ^a	RCP2.6	-72 to -41	-118 to -78	More unlikely than likely	Likely	Likely	Likely
500 (480 to 530)	No overshoot of 530 ppm CO ₂ -eq		-57 to -42	-107 to -73	Unlikely	More likely than not		
	Overshoot of 530 ppm CO ₂ -eq		-55 to -25	-114 to -90		About as likely as not		
550 (530 to 580)	No overshoot of 580 ppm CO ₂ -eq		-47 to -19	-81 to -59		More unlikely than likely ^f		
	Overshoot of 580 ppm CO ₂ -eq		-16 to 7	-183 to -86				
(580 to 650)	Total range	RCP4.5	-38 to 24	-134 to -50	Unlikely	Unlikely	More likely than not	
(650 to 720)	Total range		-11 to 17	-54 to -21			More unlikely than likely	
(720 to 1000) ^b	Total range	RCP6.0	18 to 54	-7 to 72	Unlikely ^h	Unlikely ^h	Unlikely	More unlikely than likely
>1000 ^b	Total range	RCP8.5	52 to 95	74 to 178	Unlikely ^h	Unlikely ^h	Unlikely	More unlikely than likely

3. **Establishing a County GHG Reduction Target**
 - a. Important for moving forward with our climate action plans.
 - b. Selection of a GHG reduction target and overlap with MPPs, CPPs, GPPs
 - c. Develop recommendation for and/or dialogue with County elected officials
4. **Local government GHG targets - Findings from Plan Scan Review**
 - a. For reports released since Paris Agreement, there are two common targets: 1) 80% reduction by 2050 (baseline ~2005-2007, 2010), or 2) Carbon Neutral by 2050

¹ Paris Agreement Resources:

<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/what-is-the-paris-agreement>

- b. For reports released prior to Paris Agreement, the Kyoto Protocol targets² and/or the UN and EU's extension of the Kyoto Protocol (i.e. 20% below 2000 levels by 2020), are more common.

5. Target Setting Discussion

- a. Proposal A: Carbon Neutrality by 2050
- b. Proposal B: 80% reduction by 2050 (~2010 baseline)
- c. Proposal C: PSCCA/PSRC Vision 2050 target: 50% below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. *See Notes 1 and 2 under Comp Plan Update 1a below.*

AGENDA ITEM #6: Comp Plan Update – Discussion Guide

1. County is in the process of reviewing and conducting a 'crosswalk' the PSRC's Vision 2050 multicounty planning policies (MPPs), and the countywide planning policies (CPPs), which will ultimately impact the GPPs (County's comp plan policies). Vision 2050 has ramped up by adding a new specific climate change chapter. Opportunities for involvement and providing input on CPPs/GPPs.
 - a. **GHG reduction target setting:** Should the CPPs and/or GPPs include standards that are higher than "established state and federal standards"? In the Climate Change Goal, VISION 2050 references the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency's GHG goals (50% below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80% below 1990 levels by 2050).
 - o Note 1: Many communities do not have GHG inventory data for 1990.
 - o Note 2: If goal is to keep temperature increase below 1.5 degrees C (i.e. Paris Agreement), then PSRC's target is likely inadequate (i.e. see IPCC chart on previous page).
 - b. **Tree canopy:**
 - i. Significant community/stakeholder area of interest and with the County's new Healthy Forest Project.
 1. Note 1: Discuss potential for setting a tree canopy coverage target(s), and corresponding considerations (e.g. timeframe, equitable distribution and benefits to underserved communities, habitat corridors and habitat preservation, etc).

² Kyoto Protocol: [5 per cent emission reduction compared to 1990 levels over the five year period 2008–2012 \(the first commitment period\).](#)