

Governor's Council on Biofuels – Executive Committee

March 31, 2020 Meeting

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.
Webex Teleconference

Agenda

- Introductions (Commissioner Petersen)
- Status of ethanol plants during COVID-19 pandemic (Commissioner Petersen)
- Review outline of possible information needs/possible presentations for council (Bob Patton). This includes suggestions of Council members.
- Discussion of possible presentations for April 21st and April 29th meetings (Committee)
- Other topics
- Adjourn

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Information needs/possible presentations for Council

For 3/31/2020 Executive Committee meeting

Open meetings law

[Presentation at 3/17/20 meeting by Chris McNulty]

Overview of biofuels sector

Current fuels (fuels currently in commercial production in Minnesota; i.e. ethanol and biodiesel)

1. Production Data

- a. Number of plants, locations in the state (and comparisons with other states)
- b. Analysis (Barriers & Opportunities)

2. Consumption

- a. Gallons used
- b. Retail infrastructure: status and needs
 - (1) Aged infrastructure
 - (a) Retail infrastructure (storage tanks, pumps, lines, and dispensers) that has aged beyond its useful life and needs to be retired or replaced in order to protect the environment from spills and leaks.
 - (2) Compatible infrastructure
 - (a) Need for infrastructure to move to the higher biofuel blends (i.e., blends higher than E10 or B20)

[Note from Tim Gross: "would like to hear from the MPCA Underground Tank Division on their take on Underground Storage Tank (UST) systems compatibility with higher than 10% ethanol blends. They know the 7,100 UST gasoline systems registered in the state and have come up with estimates on numbers and costs to bring these systems up to compatibility levels allowing E15 and higher blends."]

- c. Wholesale infrastructure: status and needs

3. Efficiency trends

[Presentation on 3/17/20 by Connie Christianson. Planned presentations for 4/6/20 meeting by Jeremy Martin and Ron Alverson]

- a. Carbon Intensity
- b. Energy Balance
- c. Water Use in Production

4. Efficiency in vehicles

[Presentation on 3/17/20 by Bruce Jones]

5. Feedstocks
6. Byproducts and alternative products
 - a. Distillers' grains
 - b. For energy production (example: ethanol for electrical production)
 - c. Hand sanitizer/disinfectant
7. Co-benefits
 - a. Water quality
 - b. Soil health
 - c. Carbon sequestration

[These topics also likely to be addressed by presentations for 4/6/20 meeting]
8. Land-use impacts
9. Food price/food supply impacts

The future of biofuels in the medium to long term: opportunities, barriers, timelines

1. Cellulosic ethanol feedstocks
 - a. Corn-kernel fiber
 - b. Agricultural biomass
 - c. Woody biomass

[Note: Rick Horton suggested a meeting agenda: see attached]
2. High-compression vehicles (using high octane ethanol blends)
3. Isobutanol
4. Renewable diesel
5. Biodiesel from algae
6. Jet fuel
7. Other?

Overview of biofuels policy in Minnesota, nationally, and worldwide

1. For Minnesota, could include:
 - a. MnDOT Report: [Pathways to Decarbonizing Transportation in Minnesota](#)

Includes ZEV/LEV and relationship to Council's charge. Note: idea to have liaison from MnDOT's Sustainable Transportation Advisory Council (STAC) attend the GCB and vice versa
 - b. Clean Cars Minnesota (clean car standard/LEV-ZEV) rulemaking at the MPCA

- c. Clean Fuels Policy for the Midwest (LCFS discussion)
- d. Current bills to increase minimum ethanol content to 15% (HF 3699/SF3605)

[Note: Suggestion from Lance Klatt]

- 2. For federal, could include how federal policy provides opportunities or constrains action by Minnesota
- 3. For other states/places, could include:
 - a. LCFS, as it exists in California and Oregon and is proposed in Washington
 - b. LEV/ZEV: 14 states and the District of Columbia have adopted the LEV standard, and 11 states have adopted the ZEV standard.

DRAFT AGENDA

Minnesota Governor's Council on Biofuels

Meeting Dedicated to the Potential for Using Woody Feedstocks to Produce Advanced Biofuels in Minnesota's Transportation Biofuels/Renewable Fuels Future

1. Welcome

Rick Horton, Minnesota Forest Industries

2. Potential Minnesota Investors

Lisa Hughes, DEED

Janelle Greschner, IRRRB

- a. Presenters will introduce several potential investors who will discuss their interest in developing a facility in Minnesota, the technology involved, and the roadblocks to their success.

3. Benefits of Using Woody Feedstocks

Rick Horton, Minnesota Forest Industries

- a. Presenter will discuss how transportation fuels derived from woody feedstocks will help reduce greenhouse gasses in the transportation sector using abundant excess raw materials and addressing forest health issues, while supporting economically disadvantaged communities.

4. Minnesota's Forest Resources

Kristen Bergstrand, Minnesota DNR

- a. Presenter will discuss raw material sources, amounts and advantages.

5. Barriers to Success/Recommendations

Lisa Hughes, DEED

- a. Presenter will list specific federal and state regulatory and legislative changes required to clear a pathway for creating an advanced biofuels industry in Minnesota, and how Minnesota decisionmakers can spur innovation.

6. Questions

7. Adjourn