

RNG Committee Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2020 @ 1:00pm ET

Attendees: 36

Tom O'Rourke, Eversource Energy

Thomas Murray, VGS

Jonathan Hirte, DTE

Randy Beck, Waste Management

Ryan Gach, Waste Management

Steve Cavanaugh, Cavanaugh & Associates

Sarah Bailey, Eversource

Norma McDonald, OWS

Bryan Nudelbacher, US Gain

Craig Frear, Regenis

Scott O'Neill, Waste Management

Nyoca Davis, Eversource

Charles Love, Trillium

Jim Lemon, BTR Energy

Michael Lemon, BTR Energy

Diane Saber, REEThink

Jessica Linville-LeRoy, Mendota Agriproducts

Yvan Champagne

Richardo Hamdan, Hitachi Zosen Inova

Matt Tomich, Energy Vision

Derek Hundert, PlanET Biogas

Tom Gratz, Hitachi Zosen Inova

Paul Greene, Montrose Environmental

Bernie Sheff, Montrose Environmental

Eric Wilgenbusch, Unison Solutions

Sirasha Chada, Barlett & West

Ryan Forrest, Trillium

Brad Pleima, EcoEngineers

Antonio Saavedra, Xebec

Rashi Akki, Ag Grid

Brian Langolf, UW Oshkosh

Several unknown

Staff:

Patrick Serfass

George Davidson

Caroline Peat

Agenda

- 1) Welcome and Antitrust
- 2) RNG Program for Massachusetts (Tom O'Rourke, Eversource)
 - a) Potential actions:

- i. Supporting the rate case
- ii. Educating legislators on role of RNG re: 2030 MA carbon targets
- iii. Introducing a renewable gas standard bill/identifying a champion
- b) Discussed actions:
 - i. Provide testimony on Maine RGS—Tom Murray suggestion
 - ii. Work with MA utility commission to make sure any RNG program supports small farms since there aren't as many large farms. They also need to ensure that food waste and industrial waste as a feedstock can be used to get RNG projects to pencil
 - iii. Create a presentation to give to staff of MA commission on RNG—need to get them to value the carbon and societal benefits
 - iv. Respond to points 30 and 31 in the document from the MA Attorney General. RNG as a biofuel and for electricity.
 - v. Need to educate folks on the carbon benefits of non-agricultural biogas
 - vi. Communicate how recycling organic waste issues in the NE is a particular opportunity due to high landfill rates
- 3) ABC's RNG purity recommendation: we need to include a Wobbe number (Patrick Serfass, ABC)
 - a) Volunteers:
 - i. Diane Saber, REEThink
 - ii. Ryan Gach, WM
 - iii. Sara Bailey, Eversource
 - b) https://americanbiogascouncil.org/resources/rng-purity-recommendation
- 4) Delay in Colorado's RNG program (George Davidson, ABC)
 - a) Due to need to focus on COVID-related issues, not because of anything related to RNG
 - b) Chris Hansen, the lead is well trusted by the legislature, so this is likely to proceed next year when the legislature takes these issues up again. But first, Senator Hansen needs to win his re-election.
- 5) Adjourn