



AIR AND CLIMATE PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ACPAC)

November 17, 2025

5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

Webinar information provided to members via email.

Chair: William Washburn

DRAFT TELECONFERENCE MEETING SUMMARY

ACPAC ATTENDEES: Stacey Garfinkle, Julie Kimmel, Jack Lyman, Ian Marcus, William Marsh, Peter Mecca, Chris Tandy, James Wang, William Washburn

COG STAFF: Leah Boggs, Heidi Bonnafon, Caroline Sherman

OTHER ATTENDEES: Dr. David Konisky

**5:30 P.M. 1. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS, MEETING SUMMARY
APPROVAL AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

William Washburn, ACPAC Vice Chair

The meeting was called to order by Chair William Washburn. The September 15 meeting summary was approved with no amendments. The meeting had a quorum and there were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no COG announcements. William Marsh announced a

5:45 P.M. 2. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE DRAFT TOOLKIT OVERVIEW

Leah Boggs, COG Staff

Heidi Bonnafon, COG Staff

Presentation Summary

- COG Staff provided an overview of the draft Toolkit.
- Leah Boggs tracked the history and decision making process to update the toolkit, as well as the parallel equity-related work across COG's air, climate, and energy program areas. That work included the MWAQC EJ Subcommittee [Resource Guide for Air Quality Action](#), July 2025 and Climate Pollution Reduction Grant [Comprehensive Climate Action Plan](#), December 2025.

- Heidi Bonnaffon briefed the committee on components of the new toolkit.
 - Two-pronged approach of two local government workshops and community engagement led by Equival Consultants.
 - Eight engagement approaches instead of nine.
 - Updated with information from “on the ground” perspectives gathered from local government listening sessions and regional and national case studies
- Leah Boggs walked through the draft toolkit review process with the final approval expected at the January ACPAC meeting.

Discussion

- James Wang suggested that the title should be specific and include the toolkit’s audience, COG’s name and/or the committee’s name.
- William Marsh complimented the consultant’s work on their community engagement and outreach and how it resonates with Loudoun County’s ideas of community engagement.
- There was consensus that the new toolkit was timely and a needed piece of work.
- Staff made note to resend the CCAP final report to William Marsh.

6:20 P.M. 3. THE ENERGY JUSTICE LAB

Dr. David Konisky, Indiana University and, Co-Director, Energy Justice Lab

Dr. David Konisky provide an overview of The Energy Justice Lab’s research and programs, and discussed increasing need to address household energy insecurity.

Presentation Summary

- The Energy Justice Lab is a research collaboration between Indiana University and the University of Pennsylvania with a mission to explore, measure, and improve the equity and justice dimensions of society’s ongoing energy transition.
- Each year in the United States, about one in four households experience energy insecurity.
- In 2024, 14,931 DC, 111,401 MD, and 435,122 VA residential customers had their electricity or natural gas shut off due to nonpayment of their monthly bill.
- Increased demands on electricity from AI and data centers has the potential to make energy more unaffordable for many people.
- Households cope by accruing debt and other unsustainable measures to pay utility costs.
- Policy interventions include debt relief and disconnection protections.

Discussion

- William Marsh inquired about the discrepancy in zip code level data for VA compared to MD.
 - MD is one of 8 states that require data at the zip code Total reporting is from 22 states. level. VA does not require zip code level data from its utilities.
 - States are required to report the data to the PUC/SCC. The Energy Justice Lab gets the information directly from the PUCs/SCCs. Unlike other states, VA’s information isn’t publicly available.
 - The Utility Disconnection Dashboard was funded through an NSF grant, not federal funding. The Energy Justice Lab is funding through foundation funds.
- Staff follow-up
 - Send Dr. Konisky November 20 BEEAC meeting information on LIHEAP discussion.
 - Post video clip of Dr. Konisky’s segment to website and send to BEEAC and ACPAC.

7:05 P.M. 4. NEW OFFICERS SUBCOMMITTEE AND 2026 RECRUITMENT

William Washburn, Chair

Leah Boggs, COG Staff

ACPAC Members

Leah Boggs reviewed the 2026 recruitment campaign.

- The recruitment campaign is December 1, 2025 – January 16, 2026 to recruit for 4 seats on the committee, two each from Virginia and DC. William Marsh's and Matthew Gravatt's term ends in January 2026 and two other members had to leave before their terms ended.
- ACPAC members were asked to use the recruitment kit to publicize the campaign

Chair Washburn selected the following for the new officers nominating subcommittee:

- Chris Tandy, VA
- James Wang, MD
- Jack Lyman, DC

7:30 P.M. 5. NEXT ACPAC MEETING AND ADJOURN

The next ACPAC meeting is January 26, 2026. Chair William Washburn adjourned the meeting.

Meeting Documents:

<https://www.mwcog.org/events/2025/11/17/air-and-climate-public-advisory-committee/>