

MCC Working Group June 2024 Deliverable Template - Energy

Working Group Recommended Climate Strategies, Actions and Measurable Outcomes

This template is intended to provide clear guidance on the product that each Working Group is expected to present to the Maine Climate Council in early June 2024.

The template has three sections: an introduction, a summary of strategies and actions, and an analysis section that provides important supporting information. Please submit strategies to GOPIF by June 5, 2024, along with a PPT presentation of the information. GOPIF will provide a template PPT closer to that date.

The Working Groups are tasked with updating Maine’s existing climate action plan, Maine Won’t Wait. The existing plan is, therefore, the starting place for the update, and Working Groups are encouraged to prioritize their time on the issues that most require their attention. Some existing strategies will likely need little or no revision, some might require significant updating, and some might no longer be relevant and can be eliminated. In addition, the Working Group may identify gaps that require entirely new strategies and/or actions.

Thank you in advance to all the Working Group members and co-chairs for the work over the next few months to update the strategies. Thank you also for using this template to provide a consistent output for the Climate Council.

WORKING GROUP DELIVERABLE TEMPLATE

1. INTRODUCTION

Use this Introduction to briefly describe the Working Group’s mandate, the issues it focused on, and the Working Group’s process. Aim for 1 to 1.5 pages.

2. SUMMARY OF STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

This is a high-level summary of the proposed strategies and actions. The table below lists the current strategies and actions in *Maine Won’t Wait* and the [Equity Subcommittee report](#). Use these strategies as an **example of the level of detail** that should be provided in your final deliverable. Edit this table based on the Working Group’s deliberations, providing a new summary table. **Only include in your summary table strategies that your group proposes to modify, or entirely new strategies.** If a strategy is “fine as is” or was not discussed by the Working Group, do not include it in your table.

Strategies and Actions (Update this table – these are current *Maine Won’t Wait* strategies and Equity Subcommittee recommendations)

STRATEGY	ACTION
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<p>Chapter B Equity Goal #2 – Increase enrollment in energy bill assistance among income-eligible households</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and address barriers to accessing energy bill assistance • Streamline ability to transfer HEAP between fuel sources
<p>STRATEGY C Recommendation 1 – Ensure Adequate Affordable Clean-Energy Supply</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve by 2030 an electricity grid where 80% of Maine’s usage comes from renewable generation • Set achievable targets for cost-effective deployment of technologies such as offshore wind, distributed generation, and energy storage, and outline the policies, including opportunities for pilot initiatives, necessary to achieve these results
<p>STRATEGY C Recommendation 2 – Initiate a Stakeholder Process to Transform Maine’s Electric Power Sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a comprehensive stakeholder process in 2021 to examine the transformation of Maine’s electric sector and facilitate other recommendations of the Maine Climate Council
<p>STRATEGY C Recommendation 4 – Encourage Highly Efficient Combined Heat and Power Facilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze Policies, including the potential for long-term contracts, needed to advance new highly efficient combined heat and power production facilities that achieve significant net greenhouse gas reductions
<p>Chapter C Equity Goal #1 – Increase access to clean energy projects or benefits which reduce energy burden for vulnerable households and communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a comprehensive assessment of energy burden in Maine • Increase LMI household access to community solar projects • Develop a clean energy navigator and outreach program • Expand financing options for clean energy and energy efficiency serving low-income households and affordable rental properties, climate or economically vulnerable natural resource industries and small businesses
<p>Chapter C Equity Goal #2 – Ensure fair costs and benefits to disadvantaged people, communities, and industries for large-scale renewable energy and energy infrastructure projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop mechanisms to consider disadvantaged communities in siting large-scale renewables and energy infrastructure improvements

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop guidance to assist communities and municipalities in determining host community benefits
STRATEGY D Recommendation 2 – Clean-Energy Jobs and Businesses in Maine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch a workforce initiative by 2022 that establishes ongoing stakeholder coordination between industry, educational, and training organizations to support current and future workforce needs • Establish programs and partnerships by 2022 for clean-tech innovation support to encourage the creation of clean-energy and climate solutions
Chapter D Equity Goal #1 – Attract, prepare, and position people and businesses in disadvantaged communities for jobs and economic growth in clean energy and energy efficiency industries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore opportunities to grow the number of licensed electricians • Ensure that the clean energy workforce clearinghouse is designed to support disadvantaged students and job seekers • Identify energy workers and industries disproportionately impacted by climate change and analyze pathways into clean energy careers

3. ANALYSIS AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

For each strategy and its respective set of actions, provide concise analysis using the questions below. Analysis should focus mostly on new strategies and significant revisions to existing strategies.

Key Questions (provide analysis for each strategy and its respective set of actions.)

1. **Impacts** - Describe the recommended strategy and its actions and how they address Maine’s four climate goals – *reducing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing resilience, creating economic opportunity, and achieving equity through Maine’s climate response*. **Use the questions in Annex 1 of this document** to guide the analysis of impacts.

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2. **Cross-over** - Does the recommended strategy involve other working groups/sectors? *Select all which apply.*

- Transportation
- Buildings, Infrastructure, and Housing
- Energy
- Community Resilience
- Coastal and Marine
- Natural and Working Lands
- Other (please describe)

How did the Working Group coordinate with others around these overlaps?

3. **Priority Populations** - Consider the priority populations impacted or affected by this recommended strategy. A list of priority populations is contained in **Annex 2** of this document.

- a. *POPULATIONS: Identify any priority populations impacted or affected by this recommended strategy.*
- b. *IMPACTS: Using the Equity Sub-Committee analysis (see Annex 3) from March 2023 as a starting place, consider both potential positive outcomes and any unintended consequences/byproducts. Describe these potential impacts/benefits.*
- c. *SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Describe how you know what groups are impacted/affected. Cite relevant data sources¹ and/or formal conversations (MCC-organized panels, focus groups, etc.) with priority populations.*
- d. *RESULT OF ENGAGEMENT: Describe any consultation or engagement with these priority population (either by the Working Group or through GOPIF's community engagement contractor). Describe how the Working Group's recommendations have changed as a result of these conversations.*
- e. *IMPLEMENTATION: How might the recommended strategy be implemented in consultation with priority populations? Do priority populations have the resources*

¹ Some available data sources include:

U.S. Council on Environmental Quality [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#) (CEJST) (select by census tract)

U.S. Census Bureau [Rural America](#) tool

The Nature Conservancy [Coastal Risk Explorer](#) (w/ particular focus on Social Vulnerability Ranking)

Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation [Assessment Tool](#) (select by census tract, county, or Tribal land)

[Maine Social Vulnerability Tool](#)

U.S. Department of Energy [Low-Income Energy Affordability Tool](#) (LEAD)

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and capacity necessary to implement or access this recommended strategy? How might you make recommendations to improve equitable access to resources and capacity-building? You might consider planning capacity, financial capacity, programmatic capacity, human capital, and other.

4. **Timeframe** - What is the timeframe for this strategy and its actions?

	Short-term (2025)	Mid-term (2030)	Long-term (2050+)
To implement			
To realize outcomes			

5. **Implementation Next Steps** - What types of next steps would be required to implement the strategy?

- Legislation, rules/regulation, internal program guidance changes
- Establishment of a new program or a fund,
- Conduct additional research
- Provide education or training
- Coordinate with other parties/agencies/states
- Other (please describe)

Please provide some detail around these steps. If possible, identify **specific actors** who would lead in the implementation of the strategy and actions.

6. **Measuring Outcomes** - How will you know the recommended strategy is effective? *Are outcomes measurable using current monitoring/data collection? Are there benchmarks or short-term indicators of success?*

7. **Other** - Additional Rationale/Background Information

**Please footnote substantive disagreements among the Working Group members

Annex 1: Key questions for analyzing impacts

<p>Mitigation</p> <p>Reducing greenhouse gas emissions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Does the recommended strategy reduce air pollution (ozone, VOC, NOx, etc)? B. What is the estimated CO2e savings or sequestration (metric tons) by 2030, 2050? C. What is the cost effectiveness of those reductions (cost per ton of CO2e reduced) and the total cost? D. Does the cost or impact change if the recommended strategy is designed to prioritize priority populations? E. Does the recommended strategy create a healthier living environment and improved quality of life for Mainers, particularly Maine’s priority populations?
<p>Adaptation and resilience</p> <p>Decreasing vulnerability to, and increasing the ability to recover from, climate hazards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Does the recommended strategy decrease the <i>likelihood</i> of climate hazards (i.e. wildfires, flooding) occurring? B. Does the recommended strategy decrease the <i>risk</i> from climate hazards for individuals, communities, or sectors, and particularly priority populations? C. Does the recommended strategy increase any climate risks or burdens for any Maine people? D. Does the recommended strategy expand access to essential services (transportation, healthcare, etc.) in underserved or priority communities? E. Does the recommended strategy help build community capacity through funding, educational opportunities, and/or other resources? F. Are there any natural environment co-benefits (i.e. habitat creation, connectivity improvements, etc) associated with this recommendation?
<p>Workforce + Economic Opportunity</p> <p>Creating jobs and fostering innovation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Will the recommended strategy create new jobs, prevent job loss, or cost the state jobs? B. Does the recommended strategy attract new workers and families to Maine, and/or employ un/underemployed people who already reside in Maine? C. Does the recommended strategy grow the economy and foster innovation in a way consistent with the state’s climate goals? D. Does the recommended strategy protect or strengthen Maine’s most climate-vulnerable economies, including natural heritage industries?

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	E. Does the recommended strategy address any potential displacement of residents or small businesses?
<p>Achieving Equity</p> <p>Increasing resources to priority populations and those most impacted by climate change</p>	<p>A. Does the recommended strategy offer options that are affordable to low-income residents? Fixed-income residents?</p> <p>B. How might the recommended strategy address any barriers to access for priority populations? <i>For this question, please document any potential barriers and address how this recommendation removes/lessens them.</i></p> <p>C. Does the recommended strategy acknowledge/respect the culture, historic assets, and traditions of low income and communities of color, especially tribal communities?</p>
<p>Additional Costs</p>	<p>A. What are the estimated fiscal costs and other costs to carry out this recommended strategy? To the state? To municipalities?</p> <p>B. What resources do you anticipate needing to inform Mainers about the strategy and the opportunity/costs of the strategy?</p> <p>C. Where would financing likely come from?</p>
<p>Proven Strategy & Feasibility</p>	<p>A. Has this strategy been implemented successfully elsewhere?</p> <p>B. Is it feasible with today's technology?</p> <p>C. What barriers to implementation exist (e.g., financial, structural, workforce capacity, public/market acceptability)?</p>
<p>Other Criteria (Optional)</p>	<p>A. Are there other co-benefits of your recommendation not covered above?</p> <p>B. Are there any other criteria important to this working group not covered above?</p>

Annex 2: Priority Populations

Individuals and Households	Geographic Areas and Communities	Businesses/Economic Sectors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Low-income individuals <input type="checkbox"/> Cost-burdened renter or owner households <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home residents <input type="checkbox"/> Unhoused individuals and families <input type="checkbox"/> Older adults (65+) <input type="checkbox"/> Youth/Students <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA+ populations <input type="checkbox"/> People with health vulnerabilities (i.e. asthma) <input type="checkbox"/> People with physical mobility challenges <input type="checkbox"/> People with limited access to transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Members of tribal nations <input type="checkbox"/> Non-White Mainers (Black, Indigenous, Asian, and Hispanic populations) <input type="checkbox"/> Non-native English speakers or people with limited English proficiency <input type="checkbox"/> New Mainers (immigrant and refugee populations) <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant workers <input type="checkbox"/> Undocumented individuals <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Low-income communities <input type="checkbox"/> Rural communities <input type="checkbox"/> Small towns with limited municipal capacity <input type="checkbox"/> Climate-frontline communities (“first and worst impacted by climate change”) <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal and Indigenous communities <input type="checkbox"/> Disadvantaged communities (please describe) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Natural resource industries (e.g., agriculture, forestry, and fishing) <input type="checkbox"/> Clean energy industries <input type="checkbox"/> Small businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Minority- or women-owned businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe)

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Annex 3: Information from the Equity Sub-Committee Report.

[tailored content to be inserted for each WG, along with a link to the full report]