

**Agenda**

**Hydrogen Economy Task Force**

**December 19, 2023**

**8:30am – 10:30am**

**Location:** Virtual WebEx Video Conference

Join Link:

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m8c122a366043561ae45f20b0ec0d47f7>

Meeting Number (access code): 2634 893 9361

Meeting Password: ZchFmPq5R32

Join by phone:

+1-312-535-8110 United States Toll (Chicago)

+1-415-655-0002

Join from a video system or application:

Dial [24648939361@illinois.webex.com](mailto:24648939361@illinois.webex.com)    
You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

**Agenda:**

1. Call to Order at 8:33 a.m. Rep. Terra Costa Howard
2. Roll Call of Membership

Rep. Terra Costa Howard: Yes

Patrick Devaney: Yes

Sarah Duffy: Yes

Sen. Laura Ellman:  Yes

Patrick Evans: No

Kyle Freeman: Yes

Bradley Fritz:  No

Jon Horek:  Yes

Jim Hoyt: Yes

Elizabeth Irvin: No

Dan LeFevers: Yes

George Letavish: Yes

Carly McCrory-McKay: No

Dulce Ortiz: No

Chad Parker: Yes

Sen. Sue Rezin: Yes

Laura Roche: Yes

Doug Scott: Yes

Dr. Petros Sofronis: Yes

Catherine Stashak: Yes

Michael Wang: No

Michael Woods: Yes

Dana Wynn: Yes

1. Review of 11/7/2023 Meeting Minutes

There was a motion to adopt the previous minutes as corrected. Sen. Laura Ellman motioned to move the new adopted minutes. Dan LaFevers seconded it.

1. Discussion of the Draft Report with any Recommendations.

Task Force members discussed efforts to review any outstanding items from the report, review potential recommendations and provide feedback enabling task force review and for a final approval by the January 9th meeting.

It was noted that Patrick Evans and Dulce Ortiz had had previously offered recommendations. Sara Duffy has suggested edits to Patrick’s proposal on the applicability of existing laws in light of fact that the Regulatory/Safety working group has not specifically examined these laws. Since Patrick was unable to attend the meeting, it was suggested that the matter be discussed off-line.

John Horek proposed a notion for supporting a low carbon fuels standard, noting that the entire west coast, including California, Oregon, and Washington, has developed low carbon fuel standards. His recommendation is that the appropriate state agency should be tasked with reviewing the goals and implementation of the West Coast CFS markets and see how that can help Illinois meet its own transportation decarbonization goals. Senator Sue Rezin advised that the report's language should be cautious when suggesting and advised against using words like "adopt" in order to avoid giving the impression that they are fully committed to adopting this kind of language from the West Coast. This is a subject that likely warrants HETF attention in 2024.

The regulatory and safety working groups has suggestions regarding training for first responders and community leaders. There are educational requirements related to the fire service. Training should be provided for the fire service, fire inspectors, and building officials. Catherine Stashak has contacted the Illinois fire institute and they are interested in becoming involved.

Petros Sofronis recommended that the State explore how community colleges can educate the younger generations for the future workforce. He also recommended reaching out to high schools. Dana Wynn added that some of the recommendations on how the community college programs are developed are based on what the employer partners provide to the advisory committee in the development of those programs.

Sen. Laure Ellman recommended that there should be an acknowledgement of the federal incentives that are available, but nothing should be recommended until those incentives are finalized. A conclusion should be added that addresses the activities to date, noting that the HETF will continue its work through the middle of 2026. It was also recommended that within the conclusion there should be a short section listing out future topics to be discussed. Doug Scott recommended that the section 111 regulations for US EPA be add to the conclusion because it specifically mentions hydrogen as compliance mechanisms for coal and gas plans.

It was recommended to include in the education section of the report, outreach to community leaders, the public, and EJ communities, to inform them about the nature of hydrogen and to raise awareness about its potential risks and hazards as well as informing them of potential benefits.

Sarah Duffy noted previous discussions on the potential for an office on hydrogen, or at least identifying government entities would serve as appropriate points of contact.

Doug Scott also discussed adding how CCS comes into play when discussing hydrogen. What it is doing in Illinois and what kind of role it might play going forward. ?

Dan LaFevers also added that there are 17 companies nationally that are funding the effort that is looking at the opportunities across the country for hydrogen storage in specific areas in the regions.

DCEO staff will use feedback from participants to construct a narrative and recommendations for the report. This will be issued sometime between the 26th and 29th. The next meeting scheduled for January 9th, will have the goal of approving the draft for publication.

1. Adjournment
   * 1. Meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.