

Notetaker #1

Brief discussion of relevant legislation this session:

- RGGI/EE - The likelihood of Fund raids
- RPS increases
- RPACE

What messaging would be most effective in connecting with your constituency?

- Jobs- connecting labor with energy
- Labor – get fair share contribution from wealthy
- Climate emergency – eco-system is changing – need to mobilize as if we are fighting a war
- Focusing on health (climate change as a public health connection, making the children the focus, i.e. lost school days) – but also Climate change is gaining acceptance, so don't lose climate impacts message altogether
- Personal stories: need to put a face on wonky terms like RGGI
- Raise awareness on energy efficiency – as a power source
- Health disparities in urban areas – asthma, air quality, water quality
- Need to focus on safer, healthier instead of cheaper cleaner

Notetaker #2

State Budget:

Need the “long game” for structural fixes. Show the return on investment so can see light at the end of the tunnel and how this helps put us back in the right direction.

Messaging:

Should be stronger around energy efficiency = immediate results

A lot of economic resources and jobs with efficiency

Need to re-message what the state has said “cleaner, cheaper, reliable” to “safer, efficient, healthier”

How to talk about RGGI so people understand?

Use PSAs to get message out about what it does

Climate change impacts = diseases, children, health

Trump-era polling shows bigger acceptance of climate change and need for energy transitions

States are NOT accepting rollbacks of existing programs

Take short video clips of people talking about impacts and what needs to happen. Ex: Anne speaks about nursing impact with health

Notetaker #3

A focus on transportation as a means for improving health, energy use, and creating jobs

- The C.E.S. has literature in it pertaining to our goals, we need to find the best ways to ensure that DEEP and the state reach those goals
- Thinking of ways to bring together the needs of Labor and Environmental groups: converting to electric buses - both school and city - will mean tens of millions saved from our state's budget that then can be put toward improvement tasks. It will improve our air quality, reduce our emissions, and vastly diminish the leading cause of asthma in children (diesel fumes). If routes are created / expanded to connect cities and suburbs, more people would be encouraged to use public transit. Jobs will be created to build and maintain the new infrastructure, along with hiring drivers for the new routes.
- Looking at neighboring states for ideas on how to improve our transit systems (i.e. Burlington, VT)
- As with the first point, it was stressed that transit needs to expand to connect cities like Hartford and Middletown, and to connect UConn and Eastern to every town
- From the health prospective, we should team with health facilities and professionals, to collect viable data with which to aim our efforts
The Beyond Coal campaign was able to show the amount of lives saved, and the amount of healthcare costs lessened because of their efforts

It makes complete fiscal and health sense to switch to electric or low emissions transit, as well as to expand our current routes