The Governor’s Council on Climate Change
Executive Order 3
Connecticut Water Works Association, Inc Annual Meeting
June 3, 2020
The GC3 was first created by Governor Dan Malloy in 2015 by Executive Order 46 and released a report in December 2018 titled *Building a Low Carbon Future for Connecticut: Achieving a 45% GHG reduction by 2030.*

In September 2019, Governor Lamont rejuvenated the GC3 through Executive Order 3, expanded its scope to include climate change adaptation, and tasked the Council with two primary objectives:

1. Monitor and report on the state’s implementation of the greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies set forth in the GC3’s December 2018 recommendations report.

2. Develop and implement adaptation strategies to assess and prepare for the impacts of climate change in areas such as infrastructure, agriculture, natural resources, and public health.
Objective 1:

1. Monitor and report on the state’s implementation of the greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies set forth in the GC3’s December 2018 recommendations report. This includes tasks such as:

- evaluating **opportunities for equitably distributing the costs and benefits of implementing** the recommended GHG mitigation strategies, specifically addressing any disproportionate impact on environmental communities;

- assessing and describing how GHG reduction strategies are being **integrated into existing and new state agency planning efforts**;

- evaluating the **efficacy of existing and proposed policies and regulations** aimed at reducing GHG emissions; and

- identifying new and emerging GHG mitigation strategies that **maximize climate change adaptation and resiliency**.
Objective 2:

Develop and implement adaptation strategies to assess and prepare for the impacts of climate change in areas such as infrastructure, agriculture, natural resources, and public health. This includes tasks such as:

• conducting an inventory of vulnerable assets and operations;
• revising and updating the statewide Adaptation and Resilience Plan; and
• reporting on the alignment of climate change adaptation strategies incorporated into state agency planning processes and documents.

To achieve these objectives and associated tasks the Council may establish subcommittees and working groups including, but not limited to, a Climate Change Mitigation Subcommittee and Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency Subcommittee.
January 15, 2021 report to the Governor the state’s progress on the implementation of the recommendations outlined in the report *Building a Low Carbon Future for CT: Achieving a 45% reduction by 2030*;
Establish a framework, in consultation with the state’s Chief Data Officer and in coordination with CIRCA’s ongoing vulnerability assessment, for state agencies to compile and maintain an inventory of vulnerable assets and operations.

January 15, 2021, report to the Governor on a revised statewide Adaptation and Resilience Plan for Connecticut that encompasses the most current and locally scaled scientific information and analysis available with respect to the effects of climate change, including sea level rise, changes in precipitation and temperature patterns, and storm preparedness in the context of the State’s changing land use and demographics.
Deliverables

Statewide Resilience Plan to include:

- Review of recommendations from the 2011 Climate Change Adaptation/Preparedness Plan and 2013 revision
  - Assess current implementation status
  - Assess continued relevance of recommendations from plans

- Recommendations and proposals for funding sources and financing mechanisms to advance investment in recommended strategies

- Recommended strategies to prioritize climate change adaptation efforts to protect vulnerable communities that may be disproportionately impacted by the effects of climate change

- Recommendation for aligning with municipal and regional adaptation efforts
December 31, 2021, compile a comprehensive State Agency Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency report on the alignment of climate change adaptation strategies incorporated into each state agency’s relevant planning processes and documents

i. The Integrated Resources Plan
ii. Forest Action Plan
iii. Wildlife Action Plan
iv. Green Plan
v. State Water Plan
vi. Coordinating Water Systems
vii. Statewide Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan
viii. State Building Code
ix. State Plan of Conservation and Development
x. Housing and Community Development Plan
xi. Five-Year Capital Program for All Modes of Transportation
Council shall report at least once, by the close of each calendar year, on its progress to the chairpersons and ranking members of relevant joint standing committees of the Connecticut General Assembly, including, but not limited to, the joint standing committees having cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology, the environment, planning and development, and insurance.
Overall Timeline

- **Dec 2019**: GC3 Kick Off Meeting
- **Jan 2020**: Subcommittees Meet (Define & set subcommittee & working groups tasks and schedule for the year)
- **Feb – Aug 2020**: Working Groups meet, conduct outreach and draft recommendations
- **Fall 2020**: Release draft recommendations for public comment
- **Dec 2020**: Finalize recommendations and reports
- **January 15, 2021**: Final Reports to Governor Lamont
- **March 23, 2020**: Stay Safe. Stay Home. EO
Governor’s Council on Climate Change

Climate Change Mitigation Subcommittee
- Progress on Mitigation Strategies

Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency Subcommittee
- Equity and Environmental Justice
- Working and Natural Lands
- Science and Technology
- Assessing Vulnerabilities in State Assets & Operations
- Financing Adaptation
- Adaptation Planning and Implementation

Working Groups
Get Involved

- GC3 Working Groups continuing to hold meetings remotely despite COVID-19
- Keep track of upcoming meetings at this website: https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Climate-Change/GC3/Subcommittee-and--working-groups
- Join the GC3 Listserv: https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Climate-Change/Climate-Change-Listserv
- Join a workgroup
- Provide public comments (in meetings or on reports)
Resources

Drinking Water Vulnerability Assessment and Resilience Plan


• Vulnerability assessment of Connecticut community water systems in the four counties impacted by Super Storm Sandy to identify options and alternatives to mitigate the vulnerabilities identified and to improve resiliency and to compile the assessment into a comprehensive public water systems resiliency plan.
• Review current practices, procedures, and requirements for emergency response at DPH and develop an emergency response plan, in collaboration with the Department.
• Use available GIS data layers and information from local health directors to assess the vulnerability of private wells and recommend actions to improve resiliency.
• Prepare a high-level comprehensive implementation plan that addresses identified community water systems’ vulnerabilities and provides options and alternatives to improve resiliency.