



Legislative & Regulatory News

Governor Lamont Issues Climate Change Executive Order

Governor Ned Lamont signed an executive order (**Executive Order No. 21-3**) directing Connecticut executive branch state agencies to take significant actions within their authority to reduce carbon emissions and prepare for the impacts of the climate crisis.

"Connecticut is increasingly experiencing the effects of the changing climate, and precious little time remains to take action to mitigate the impacts the state will experience in the future. The state's **Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report** shows that emissions from the transportation and building sectors are increasing, and that the state is not on track to meet its interim 2030 target," said Governor Lamont.

Executive Order No. 21-3 calls for 23 actions, proposed by the Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3) in its **January 2021 report**, that cut across state agencies and sectors. The 23 actions required by the executive order include:

1. Affordable heating and cooling for Connecticut residents and businesses;
2. Energy efficient and climate resilient building codes;
3. Appliance and product efficiency standards
4. A statewide battery electric bus fleet;
5. Shovel-ready resilience projects;
6. Regulating emissions from medium and heavy-duty vehicles;
7. Increasing resilience and carbon sequestration in forests and agriculture;
8. Resilient stormwater and drainage systems; and
9. Establishes Connecticut's first Office of Climate and Public Health, the first Connecticut Equity and Environmental Justice Advisory Council, the first Connecticut Clean Economy Council, and continues the work of the Governor's Council on Climate Change.

Climate Change: Water Utility Challenges Presentations Available

CWWA held a webinar on "Climate Change: Water Utility Challenges" on December 16 to provide a framework for discussing and developing recommendations to assist water utilities in addressing climate change issues.

Marybeth Hart, Senior Coastal Planner, Land & Water Resources Division, DEEP, provided an overview of the work of the Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3) and David Murphy, PE, CFM, Director of Resilience Engineering, CT Institute for Resiliency & Climate

Adaptation (CIRCA), presented on the Resilience Connecticut Initiative and the status of other statewide planning and programs.

Here is a [link](#) to the webinar recording. The passcode is 9#k=.!B0

Also, here is a link to Marybeth Hart's presentation, [Taking Action on Climate Change](#), and David Murphy's presentations, [Water Utility Challenges](#) and [Resilient CT Update](#). Lots of great content!

CWWA's Climate Change Committee will continue to meet to discuss water utility challenges, develop recommendations, and share best practices. ***If you are interested in participating, please contact CWWA's Executive Director Betsy Gara at 860-841-7350 or gara@gmlobbying.com.***

Municipal Resilience Grant Program 2022 Funds Available

CIRCA is pleased to announce new Municipal Resilience Grant Program funding. Proposals are now being accepted from municipal governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in partnership with municipalities, and councils of governments (COGs). Up to \$150,000 is available in each of two tracks that advance the following climate activities: 1) implementing stormwater authorities, and 2) developing a resilience "project pipeline." This new round of funding supports implementation of CT's climate priorities identified by the Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3) and in PA 21-115, An Act Concerning Climate Change Adaptation. For more information and to apply, visit the **Municipal Grants webpage**. Applications are due **February 1, 2022**

A webinar to learn more about this grant funding will be held on **January 7, 2022** from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. **Register** to attend, ask questions, and hear more about how to apply.

