

From: [Aimee Barnes](#)
To: [Klee, Robert](#), ['Alexander Cochran'](#), [Davis, Chris \(GOV\)](#), [Ricketts, Sam \(GOV\)s_version1.0](#)
CC: [DeSimone Dan](#), [Enright-Kato Keri](#), [Sotos Mary](#)
Date: Sep 5, 2017 at 12:53 PM
Subject: Re: best practice template and questionnaire
Attachment(s): 3

Thank you Rob, and apologies for the calendaring issues. We actually did not have the call last week since the calendar request didn't seem to update in anyone's calendars except mine! Hopefully soon we should have an Executive Director in place and some other staff and that will help smooth some of the coordination wrinkles.

All the best,

Aimee

From: Klee, Robert <Robert.Klee@ct.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2017 3:44 PM
To: 'Alexander Cochran'; Aimee Barnes; 'Davis, Chris (GOV)'; 'Ricketts, Sam (GOV)'
Cc: DeSimone, Dan; Enright-Kato, Keri; Sotos, Mary
Subject: RE: best practice template and questionnaire

Alex et al.,

Attached is a "best practices" summary from Connecticut. Not sure if this is exactly what you had in mind, please let us know if you needed something different.

I apologize that I couldn't join the call this past Thursday – I wasn't aware of it until it was too late to adjust my calendar. Can someone provide a quick synopsis of what the Climate Alliance is planning for NYC Climate Week and whether and/or which Governor-level participation is anticipated? Or is that the topic of the Tuesday (Sept. 5th) call at 2 pm? If so I can wait.

Although I think it's improving, I am not sure whether I am actually receiving all the emails and calendar invites. Please put me on whatever master lists you have in addition to Dan DeSimone from Connecticut's Washington DC office. My Connecticut team is also cc'd above – Deputy Commissioner Mary Sotos (who went to the in-person meeting in Providence), and Keri Enright-Kato, my Director of our Office of Climate Change, Technology, and Research. If you could include them too, I'd appreciate it.

Have a nice holiday weekend.

Cheers,

Rob

Robert J. Klee

Commissioner

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Conserving, improving and protecting our natural resources and environment;

Ensuring a clean, affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy supply.

From: DeSimone, Dan
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 4:14 PM
To: Klee, Robert
Subject: FW: best practice template and questionnaire

Dan DeSimone
Director – Washington, DC Office
Office of Governor Dannel P. Malloy
State of Connecticut
444 N. Capitol St., NW Suite 317
Washington, DC 20001
(o) 202-403-8654

From: Theoharides, Kathleen (EEA) [<mailto:Kathleen.Theoharides@MassMail.State.MA.US>]
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 3:56 PM
To: Alexander Cochran <Alexander.Cochran@exec.ny.gov>; Aimee Barnes <Aimee.Barnes@GOV.CA.GOV>; Ryan.Dalton@exec.ny.gov; Ruchi.SADHIR@oregon.gov; matt.swenson@state.mn.us; Angela Navarro <angln611@gmail.com>; 'Davis, Chris (GOV)' <chris.davis@gov.wa.gov>; Jamie Callahan <Jamie.Callahan@GOV.CA.GOV>; coybt46@gmail.com; Kate Dineen <Kate.Dineen@exec.ny.gov>; laurie.williams@state.co.us; stephanie.zawistowski@state.mn.us; alexa.kleysteuber@calepa.ca.gov; linden.zakula@state.mn.us; James Allen <James.Allen@exec.ny.gov>; Brittney.Wilson@vermont.gov; 'Kara.Coats@state.de.us' <Kara.Coats@state.de.us>; John O'Leary <John.O'leary@exec.ny.gov>; scott.glenn@doh.hawaii.gov; lisa.m.hiraoka@hawaii.gov; merone.melekin@state.mn.us; Dan.DeSimone@ct.gov; Emily.Kuiken@state.de.us; Jon.Romano@governor.ri.gov; Ali.Mirzakhaili@state.de.us; angela.navarro@governor.virginia.gov
Cc: Walke, Peter <Peter.Walke@vermont.gov>; Ullman, Rebecca (EEA) <rebecca.ullman@state.ma.us>; Bartlett, Ned (EEA) <ned.bartlett@state.ma.us>; Love, Susan E. (DNREC) <Susan.Love@state.de.us>; Seemans, Jordan (Governor) <Jordan.Seemans@state.de.us>; Ricketts, Sam (GOV) <Sam.Ricketts@gov.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: best practice template and questionnaire

My suggested changes to the template attached, from our call earlier today.

From: Alexander Cochran [<mailto:Alexander.Cochran@exec.ny.gov>]
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 1:47 PM
To: Theoharides, Kathleen (EEA); Aimee Barnes; Ryan.Dalton@exec.ny.gov; Ruchi.SADHIR@oregon.gov; matt.swenson@state.mn.us; Angela Navarro; 'Davis, Chris (GOV)'; Jamie Callahan; coybt46@gmail.com; Kate Dineen; Theoharides, Kathleen (EEA); laurie.williams@state.co.us; stephanie.zawistowski@state.mn.us; alexa.kleysteuber@calepa.ca.gov; linden.zakula@state.mn.us; James Allen; Brittney.Wilson@vermont.gov; 'Kara.Coats@state.de.us'; John O'Leary; scott.glenn@doh.hawaii.gov; lisa.m.hiraoka@hawaii.gov; merone.melekin@state.mn.us; Dan.DeSimone@ct.gov; Emily.Kuiken@state.de.us; Jon.Romano@governor.ri.gov; Ali.Mirzakhaili@state.de.us; angela.navarro@governor.virginia.gov
Cc: Walke, Peter; Ullman, Rebecca (EEA); Bartlett, Ned (EEA); Love, Susan E. (DNREC); Seemans, Jordan (Governor); Ricketts, Sam (GOV)
Subject: Re: best practice template and questionnaire

Hey Folks. Attached is a Best Practice template to help guide you in responding and sending me your state's plain English Best Practices document. Their goal is to have your Best Practices back by next Friday (August 25). In addition to the template, I have put together a questionnaire to serve as a baseline of knowledge for the incoming secretariat to have and it will also serve as a way to illustrate for us what states are doing what, guide us to see synergies, and connect the dots.

The best practices for each state should be organized by the five pillars the USCA workgroup developed in July 2017: Finance, Power Sector, Transportation, Efficiency, Natural Resources.

The USCA Best Practices exercise serves two purposes:

A. External/Plain English – developing a state-by-state compendium of USCA state programs, organized by the five pillars that can be used as a stand-alone document and be the meat of any annual report used by the USCA. These programmatic descriptions should be written to be easily digestible while still being substantive (see example document 'NY USCA BP – draft.external').

B. Internal/Detailed Program Information – In addition to the outward facing purpose, the Best Practice exercise will also build out the substantive policy details needed for USCA states to collaborate and share programmatic detail on each state's own initiatives. These responses, again organized by the five pillars, should be detailed and technical, identifying the current problem, the intervention strategy, barriers/opportunities, and metrics for performance evaluation.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Alexander Cochran

Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 8:47 AM

To: Theoharides, Kathleen (EEA); Aimee Barnes; Ryan.Dalton@exec.ny.gov; Ruchi.SADHIR@oregon.gov; matt.swenson@state.mn.us; Angela Navarro; 'Davis, Chris (GOV)'; Jamie Callahan; coybt46@gmail.com; Kate Dineen; kathleen.theoharides@state.ma.us; laurie.williams@state.co.us; stephanie.zawistowski@state.mn.us; alexa.kleysteuber@calepa.ca.gov; linden.zakula@state.mn.us; James Allen; Brittney.Wilson@vermont.gov; 'Kara.Coats@state.de.us'; John O'Leary; scott.glenn@doh.hawaii.gov; lisa.m.hiraoka@hawaii.gov; merone.melekin@state.mn.us; Dan.DeSimone@ct.gov; Emily.Kuiken@state.de.us; Jon.Romano@governor.ri.gov; Ali.Mirzakhali@state.de.us; angela.navarro@governor.virginia.gov

Cc: Walke, Peter; Ullman, Rebecca (ENV); Bartlett, Ned (ENV); Love, Susan E. (DNREC); Seemans, Jordan (Governor); Ricketts, Sam (GOV)

Subject: Proposed event for Climate Week and framing doc

Hey friends:

Here's a doc to help explain a possible event and talk it over with your senior teams. Pls let us know response. This is what was described on last week's call and that I promised to get you. I will also get out a series of questions and format for best practices in next day.

A

When: September 20, 2017 at UN Climate Week in NYC (location TBD)

Who: (depending on schedules) USCA Co-Chairs: Gov. Brown (CA), Gov. Cuomo (NY) and Gov. Inslee joined by other Alliance governors (possibly: Hawai'i and others)

Press Interest: First official governor led USCA event announcing first annual USCA Climate Report during UN Climate Week to ensure the USCA doesn't cede any of the states' leadership on climate to other groups such as *We Are Still In*. The goal of the event would be to demonstrate the group intends to not only continue individual commitments to reduce GHG but, more importantly, announces that the USCA states are on target to hit their Paris commitments and that the states will collaborate to advance and expand GHG/carbon reduction in the US. Further that the USCA states are committed to staying united with the rest of the international community on combating climate change and meeting Paris goals.

Proposal: USCA Governors Announcement of New USCA Climate Report & USCA Initiatives for 2018

USCA was created to provide a framework for state's committed to achieving emissions reduction goals set forth in the Paris Climate Agreement. USCA Governors announce a series of products and initiatives for USCA states to work collaboratively on and advance emission reduction goals. By doing so, USCA is establishing its credibility as a bi-partisan cooperative and leaves the door open for other states to participate. USCA states are stepping up where the federal government has stepped back. States have a large degree of independence in crafting their own energy and environmental policies, and have made enormous strides in building their own clean energy economies without leadership from the federal government. Creating an annual report gives USCA the transparency and credibility needed in the face of the waning US Government presence in the climate change discussion.

By creating a report: USCA frames all follow-up or additional announcements within the progress report as everything we are doing or going to do is about progress on our numbers. We are grounded by a report showing real, demonstrative state progress in the commitment to the Paris Agreement AND the effectiveness of state policies, which speaks to this is a substantive Alliance not a PR exercise. The report will establish a way to benchmark the original 14 USCA states and leaves the door open to bring other states into group.

Content of First Annual USCA Progress Report: (see attached slides for background)

1. *Where We Are: Establishes the 2005 baseline for carbon reduction and shows the trends of the 14 USCA states reducing carbon through 2015 towards Paris goals.*
2. *What Are We Doing: Essentially recrafting state climate plans and/or USCA individual state best practice strategies that show how the USCA states have achieved improvements from 2005 onward. Yes are numbers are good right now, but it's important to understand USCA states' policies that have moved the needle. (best practice book/website)*
3. *Where We Are Going: given the policies USCA states already have in place, USCA can credibly project that USCA is on target to meeting Paris commitments by 2025 (can also compare and contrast with non-alliance states) . In addition as the slide below shows, USCA states have outpaced non USCA states in greenhouse gas reductions while at the same time out pacing them in GDP growth, showing the media/public that good climate policies do NOT hurt the economy and may in fact grow it faster.*
4. *Wait, Wait...We're Not Done: for the first report, USCA could announce the sectors we intend to collaborate on: Finance, Power Sector, Transportation, Efficiency, and Natural Resources. The USCA states are looking for deliverables to announce under those issue areas that would be ready by September event. By developing and working collectively in these sectors, USCA states will further build on and speed up positive trend lines of greenhouse gas reduction.*

Possible announcements framed within or by the Climate Report:

Formalizing USCA and Creating a Standard Emission Inventory: In order to ensure that Alliance states' emissions reductions are reported and tracked in the most effective way possible, the USCA will be supported by a secretariat out of Washington, DC

By joining USCA, members states are committing to reducing their greenhouse gas emissions by the level originally submitted by the United States -- at least 26-28 percent below 2005 levels by 2025.

USCA States will be required to submit yearly reports tracking their progress and mapping out their projections to meeting the 2025 goal, using a framework provided by the secretariat to ensure that projections are congruent to one another. USCA will offer technical assistance to all member states to ensure that the methodology and tracking is consistent amongst the member states.

USCA Best Practices Guide: An expanded state-by-state and/or sector-by-sector compendium of the policies currently in place (i.e. a comprehensive document of policies in the *What We Are Doing* summaries in the USCA Climate Report)

Technical Assistance University: Create a shared platform for states to share and offer technical assistance to one another. NYS, VT and MA are already on the same platform so we are looking into who to take that to other states.

Economic Impact Assessment: Each state could provide a summary of clean energy investments anticipated over the next 3 years that will continue driving reductions in carbon emissions. (Angela's idea) Or we could take an aggregate numbers of years since 2005 (or any other date) and state this is what have done to date. Or something in between (we need to work through this point) This should include both public-sector financed and private-sector financed investment. The breakdown will include at least the following four categories: (1) renewables, (2) energy efficiency, (3) transportation, (4) buildings. We will sum up those investments for an announcement that would focus on the following: "The Climate Alliance states are collectively committing to a goal of \$X billion or the Climate Alliance states have collectively invested xxx billions in the last decade in clean energy investment. These public and private sector investments further drive the carbon reductions necessary to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement while also providing significant economic development and job creation opportunities for our states."

USCA Green Bank: May not be ready by September but the states are discussing ways for states to partner/leverage financing and investment tools using the green banks that are already in existence.

Interstate Resilience Finance Effort--Pooling Risk: This could be potentially HUGE but may not be ready by September but need to work it through for possible November announcement. Right before transition, WH team wrote [this report](#) and had a bunch of insurance companies [make commitments](#) on supporting this work.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Theoharides, Kathleen (EEA)

Sent: Friday, August 11, 2017 2:45 PM

To: Aimee Barnes; Ryan.Dalton@exec.ny.gov; Ruchi.SADHIR@oregon.gov; matt.swenson@state.mn.us; Alexander Cochran; Angela Navarro; 'Davis, Chris (GOV)'; Jamie Callahan; coybt46@gmail.com; Kate Dineen; kathleen.theoharides@state.ma.us; laurie.williams@state.co.us; stephanie.zawistowski@state.mn.us; alexa.kleysteuber@calepa.ca.gov; linden.zakula@state.mn.us; James Allen; Brittney.Wilson@vermont.gov; 'Kara.Coats@state.de.us'; John O'Leary; scott.glenn@doh.hawaii.gov; lisa.m.hiraoka@hawaii.gov; merone.melekin@state.mn.us; Dan.DeSimone@ct.gov; Emily.Kuiken@state.de.us; Jon.Romano@governor.ri.gov; Ali.Mirzakhali@state.de.us; angela.navarro@governor.virginia.gov

Cc: Walke, Peter; Ullman, Rebecca (ENV); Bartlett, Ned (ENV); Love, Susan E. (DNREC); Seemans, Jordan (Governor); Ricketts, Sam (GOV)

Subject: RE: US Climate Alliance Members Call

Good discussion today. This is the site I mentioned that is New York facing: <https://www.nyclimatescience.org/> and below is a mock-up of the Mass site, to be released in September. A conversation with the developer about the utility of the site as a regional platform might be a good next step.

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Aimee Barnes [<mailto:Aimee.Barnes@GOV.CA.GOV>]

Sent: Monday, June 12, 2017 4:11 PM

To: Aimee Barnes; Ryan.Dalton@exec.ny.gov; Ruchi.SADHIR@oregon.gov; matt.swenson@state.mn.us; Alexander.Cochran@exec.ny.gov; Angela Navarro; 'Davis, Chris (GOV)'; Jamie Callahan; coybt46@gmail.com; Kate Dineen; kathleen.theoharides@state.ma.us; laurie.williams@state.co.us; stephanie.zawistowski@state.mn.us; alexa.kleysteuber@calepa.ca.gov; linden.zakula@state.mn.us; James.Allen@exec.ny.gov; Brittney.Wilson@vermont.gov; 'Kara.Coats@state.de.us'; John.O'leary@exec.ny.gov; scott.glenn@doh.hawaii.gov; lisa.m.hiraoka@hawaii.gov; merone.melekin@state.mn.us; Dan.DeSimone@ct.gov; Emily.Kuiken@state.de.us; Jon.Romano@governor.ri.gov; Ali.Mirzakhali@state.de.us; angela.navarro@governor.virginia.gov

Cc: Theoharides, Kathleen (EEA); Walke, Peter; Ullman, Rebecca (ENV); Bartlett, Ned (ENV); Love, Susan E. (DNREC); Seemans, Jordan (Governor); Ricketts, Sam (GOV)

Subject: US Climate Alliance Members Call

When: Friday, August 11, 2017 11:00 AM-11:30 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada).

Where: 866-722-0266;2841062

Dear all,

Thank you for taking the time to join the USCA kickoff call last week. We agreed to aim for weekly calls as we get up and running, with a goal of potentially moving to biweekly as we get further established. I've moved the standing call to a little later in the day to hopefully better accommodate Hawaii's time zone, with the recurring call starting next Friday to accommodate some scheduling conflicts from folks. Please let me know if there are any issues with this time as a standing/recurring call.

Just as a reminder, there were the following to-dos from last Friday's call:

1. **Principles:** Please provide any feedback you might have on the Alliance principles (attached) by **COB today** to Chris Davis (WA).
2. **Recruitment:** If you or someone in your team would like to support recruitment of other states, please contact Sam Ricketts (WA), Alexander Cochran (NY) and Dan Carol (CA).
3. **Communications:** Please share the contact information for your designated communications point-of-contact for the Alliance to me, Aimee Barnes (CA).
4. **Availability for in-person:** Using the following Doodle Poll link, please share your availability for an initial in-person meeting this summer: <http://doodle.com/poll/5veemkp3di26z3pa>. For now please focus on calendars of appropriate senior staff rather than Governors.
5. **Website/media:** a website for the Alliance is currently under development. State seals have been pulled but if you have a high res version you would like to share please send it to me. Please also share any style guidelines you have on the use of your state seal (e.g. whether black and white versions are okay to use). If you would like your state's press release on the Alliance linked on the website please also share the URL. Seals, guidelines and URLs can come to me.

Please feel free to flag anything I've missed. I'm also attaching an article on whether cities and states can meet the US Paris target, that folks may find of interest.

Thanks!

Aimee

Thanks!

Aimee

Aimee Barnes

Senior Advisor

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<< File: Cornwall 2017.pdf >> << File: Alliance principles_finaldraft2.docx >>