

Hydrogen Task Force: Policy and Workforce Development Working Group Charter

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Objective

The objective of the Policy & Workforce Development Working Group is to review the Connecticut policy and regulatory landscape to understand gaps that would need to be addressed to promote development of a clean hydrogen ecosystem in Connecticut. The Policy & Workforce Development Working Group will also develop recommendations regarding workforce initiatives and policy developments based on best practices that can help support a hydrogen ecosystem.

Statutory Responsibilities

“A review of regulations and legislation needed to guide the development and achievement of economies of scale for the hydrogen ecosystem in the state;

Recommendations for workforce initiatives to prepare the state’s workforce for hydrogen-fueled energy-related jobs”

Guiding Research Questions

1. How is clean hydrogen defined in Connecticut?
2. What regulatory and legislative steps have other states taken to advance clean hydrogen? Which might be potentially relevant for Connecticut?
3. What best practices should be followed to enable development and implementation of hydrogen-related policies?
4. Does the existing Connecticut policy and regulatory framework support clean hydrogen? If not, what are the gaps that need to be addressed?
5. Which legislative and regulatory bodies have jurisdiction over hydrogen production, transportation, usage, and incentives?
6. What tax and policy options could incentivize participation in a hydrogen market in Connecticut?
7. What is the potential for job creation associated with hydrogen development in the state?
8. What skillsets will be required to support a clean hydrogen ecosystem in Connecticut and what are the current gaps in capability?
9. What strategies and best practices are likely to address capability gaps through equitable workforce transition planning in Connecticut?
10. How can energy and environmental justice concerns be incorporated into best practices for hydrogen policy and workforce development strategies?
11. What policies might help to improve safe production, transport, storage, and utilization of hydrogen?
12. What policies might help to advance or align with national research, development, and deployment activities?
13. Are there any steps that should be taken to bolster the hydrogen supply chain?

Proposed Deliverables

- A set of policy guiding principles that can be used by stakeholders and other workgroup chairs to align their research and recommendations with existing state policy and processes on clean hydrogen. These guiding principles may include, but are not limited to, guidance about the potential role of clean hydrogen for supporting Connecticut state policy relating to:
 - A clean energy transition
 - Environmental justice
 - Workforce development
 - Participation in a broader regional hub effort
- A hydrogen policy readiness assessment that will identify the current status of hydrogen policy, regulation, and oversight in Connecticut, including:
 - Agencies that have oversight, and any limits of oversight
 - Active policy activities that may impact the development of hydrogen policy in the state
- Coordination with other working group efforts that may impact expected hydrogen policy development, including:
 - A proposed definition of clean hydrogen (in collaboration with the Sources Working Group)
 - Proposed priority hydrogen use cases (in collaboration with the Uses Working Group)

- Other proposed priority hydrogen infrastructure investments (in collaboration with Infrastructure Working Group)
- Issues related to energy and environmental justice (in collaboration with all working groups)
- Hydrogen policy best practices assessment, potentially including flags of specific hydrogen policies that could be most relevant for Connecticut's regulatory framework
- An assessment of hydrogen job creation opportunities, based on existing literature, Connecticut-specific opportunities, and best practices on workforce development and transition

Preliminary Timeline

- September: Present a final Policy and Workforce Development Charter to the Task Force for discussion
- October: Present preliminary findings to the Task Force and provide a status update
- November: Present draft final findings and recommendations to the Task Force for feedback
- December: Present final findings and recommendations to the Task Force
- January: Submit report to the legislature

Logistics

- The Strategen team will handle meeting logistics including scheduling and recording meeting minutes.
- The Strategen team will coordinate with Working Group Co-Chairs to develop meeting agendas which will be provided to participants a week before Working Group meetings.
- The Strategen team will provide technical assistance, through research and analysis, where appropriate, for the Working Group.
- It is expected that this working group will meet on a monthly cadence. Meeting recordings and meeting minutes will be publicly available.