

Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting – Committee on Carbon Budgets

MINUTES

Date: 14th June 2021

Start time: 14:30

Venue: Video Conference Meeting

Present: Marie Donnelly, John Fitzgerald, Julie Sinnamon, Gerry Boyle, Patricia King, Andrew Murphy, Laura Burke, Peter Thorne, Bill Callanan, Kevin Hanrahan, Trevor Donnellan, Jim Scheer, Lisa Ryan, Brian Ó Gallachóir, Alan Matthews, Hannah Daly, Andrew Smith, David Styles, Eoin Moran, Keith Lambkin, Stephen Treacy, Aoife Ahern, George Hussey.

Apologies: Aoife Parker Hedderman, Morgan Bazilian, Sinead O'Brien.

Observer (s): Cara Augustenborg.

Secretariat: Philip O'Brien, Gemma O'Reilly, Paula Leonard.

Presenters: Brian Ó Gallachóir, Professor of Energy Engineering UCC and Director of MaREI; Kevin Hanrahan, Head of Rural Economy and Development Programme, Teagasc.

1. Opening of meeting

1.1. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted by the Committee.

1.2. Minutes for the Committee on Carbon Budget Meeting

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 24th May 2021 were adopted and signed electronically by the Chair.

1.3. Update on activities

The Secretariat provided a timeline of upcoming Committee meetings, presentations to the Committee and agenda items to be discussed.

The Secretariat provided a brief progress update on the small-scale studies currently underway as part of the ongoing carbon budget analysis.

The Secretariat advised sectoral engagement meetings are currently being scheduled and are due to commence this week until June 28th, as requested by the Committee.

2. EU targets and the Carbon Budgets

Brian O'Gallachoir provided an overview of the potential increased ambition in ETS and Non ETS greenhouse gas reduction targets currently proposed at EU level, and the implications of this for Ireland and carbon budgets.

It was noted that negotiation is ongoing, and numbers have not been agreed at EU/Irish level.

3. Teagasc Economic Profile

Teagasc presented a profile of the Irish Agricultural and Food sector using CSO, ESTAT and Teagasc NFS economic data to the Committee.

4. Feedback from LULUCF Expert Meeting

The Secretariat briefed the Committee on the meeting with sectoral experts to determine the potential contribution of LULUCF to Ireland's emission reduction targets.

5. State of Play on Carbon Budget Analysis

The Secretariat provided a recap on the carbon budget analysis and supporting evidence considered by the Committee to date, in particular it presented the variety of numbers relevant to calculating carbon budgets in the Irish context presented so far.

The Secretariat have scheduled an expert meeting on the science of national mitigation efforts and 1.5C degrees on 22nd June to consult with international experts.

The Secretariat will be in touch with Committee members to participate in sectoral engagement meetings as rapporteurs.

6. The next Carbon Budget Committee meeting will take place on Monday June 21st 2021.

Marie D. Donnelly 14.06.21