



Act on Climate

Update to EC4
December 16, 2021

RIEC⁴

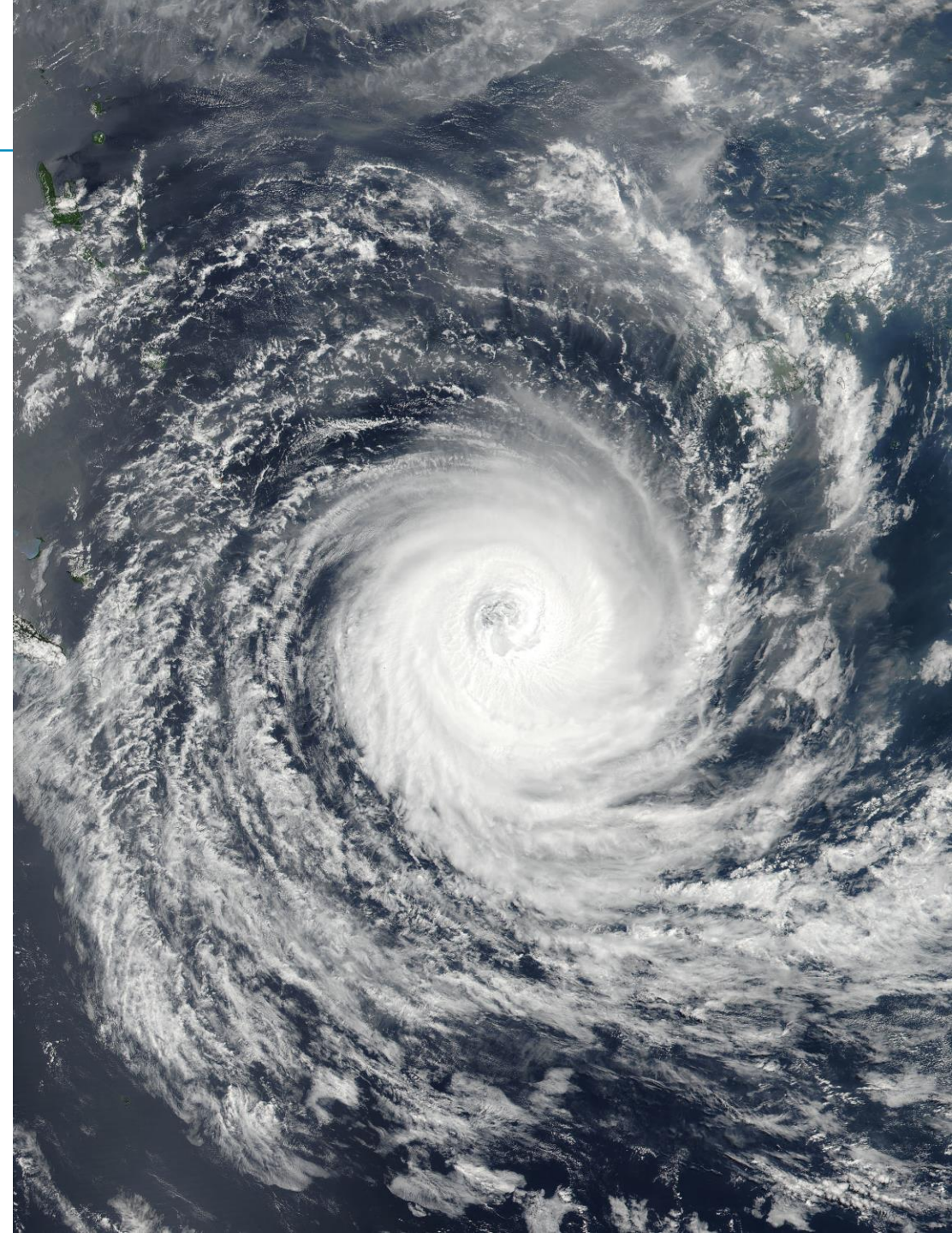
Outline

- 2022 Update to the 2016 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan
- A note on key terminology
- Summary of November 16th Public Sharing Session
- 2022 Workplan & Key Dates



2022 Update / 2025 Strategy

- As required by law, the EC4 will deliver an update to the 2016 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan to the Governor and General Assembly by **December 31, 2022**
- The update will be **informed by public comment & stakeholder discussions**
- Subsequently, the EC4 will develop a strategy to incrementally reduce climate emissions to net-zero by 2050 to be delivered to the Governor and the General Assembly by **December 31, 2025**
 - Will be developed via a robust stakeholder process
 - Will address areas such as environmental injustices, public health inequities, and a fair employment transition as fossil-fuel jobs are transitioned into green energy jobs
 - The 2025 Climate Strategy will be a comprehensive working document that will be updated every five years thereafter



Key Terminology

- **2016 GHG Plan** refers to the GHG Emissions Reduction Plan published in December 2016 in response to the 2014 Resilient Rhode Island Act
- **2022 Update** refers to the required update to the 2016 GHG Plan, as mandated by the 2021 Act on Climate
- **2025 Climate Strategy** refers to the set of “strategies, programs, and actions to meet economy-wide enforceable targets for greenhouse gas emissions” due “no later than December 31, 2025, and every five (5) years thereafter”, as mandated by the 2021 Act on Climate



Nov 16th Public Sharing Session

Well attended - 89 attendees

State legislators, Congressional staff, EC4 chair & vice-chair, most member agencies/offices of the EC4, and most major RI environmental organizations

Pre-session and post-session surveys provided insight on representation; results suggest likely underrepresentation of several communities across RI

Facilitated discussion



Facilitated Discussion

Our objective:

- Come to consensus on what the scope of the 2022 Update to the 2016 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan should entail

Four discussion prompts:

1. What are the objectives of the 2022 Update?
2. What's new or different since 2016?
3. What items from the 2016 GHG Plan need to be updated and which don't?
4. For each item to be updated, who should we talk to?



Objectives of the 2022 update?

- Be responsive to the Act on Climate
- Center equity every step of the way
- Leverage lessons learned since 2016
- Build a foundation for the 2025 Climate Strategy
- Reconsider and confirm technical aspects of modeling, be action oriented, promote resilience and reliability, and emphasize the role of renewable energy resources

New or different since 2016?

- **New emissions reduction targets directed by the Act on Climate**
- **New learning from analyses, reports, progress on actions**
- **Advances in science, technology, and business**
- **Emergency events leading to a renewed and stronger sense of urgency to act**
- **Changing factors like new funding opportunities, renewable energy procurements, and potential changes in utility ownership**

Scope of the 2022 update?

- **Technical updates**
- **Update pathways, policy and implementation strategies**
- **Review/update the entire 2016 Plan with equity appropriately centered**
- **Identify key stakeholders to engage (and engage them!)**
- **Develop a climate dashboard that tracks progress**
- **Identify and address the prerequisite needs of the 2025 Climate Strategy and preview the work ahead**

Who should we be talking to?

- Municipalities & schools
- RI Building and Construction Trades
- Labor, frontline workers
- Transportation organizations (RIDOT and leadership, RIPTA and RIBTA)
- Health Equity Zones, health organizations, American Lung Association
- Business representation, minority and women-owned businesses, businesses from environmental justice and frontline communities, businesses that may need to transition
- South Providence Neighborhood Association
- SURJ RI
- Communities
- Washington Park Association
- People's Port Authority
- Narragansett Nation
- NAACP
- Urban League
- Young people

2022 Update Workplan

- Identifies interim deliverables over the next 12 months to ensure public and Council review
- Events include Council meetings, sharing sessions, and workshops aimed directly to inform the 2022 Update
- Multiple/flexible opportunities for public participation
- Throughout 2022, hold additional one-on-one meetings with stakeholder groups
- The project team will use multiple avenues to advertise all engagement opportunities



2022 Update Workplan – Key Dates

Key Dates to Keep in Mind for Early 2022

- Next sharing sessions on the 2022 Update:

- January 11th, 2022 @ Noon
- January 13th, 2022 @ Noon
- January 13th, 2022 @ 6:00PM

**Topic: Defining
Net-Zero
Emissions by
2050**

- February 9th (10:30AM) – Full EC4 Meeting

Please submit public comments via the
online portal at:

www.climatechange.ri.gov/aoc

