

## TOPICS AND PRESENTERS

[NATIONAL CLIMATE MAYORS STEERING COMMITTEE](#)

[SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT, TARGET CORPORATION](#)

[GOVERNOR'S CLIMATE CABINET - COMMISSIONER LAURA BISHOP, MPCA](#)

[XCEL ENERGY'S VISION FOR ECONOMY-WIDE CARBON REDUCTION – NICK MARTIN](#)

[REGIONAL INDICATORS INITIATIVE – RICK CARTER AND ABBY FINIS](#)

[CALL TO ACTION: MN ADVANCED BUILDING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS](#)

Jeremy Jacobs, ULI MN Management Committee Chair and Mayor Mike Maguire, RCM Co-Chair opened the joint Advisory Board and Regional Council of Mayors meeting.

## NATIONAL CLIMATE MAYORS STEERING COMMITTEE:

[LINK TO CLIMATE MAYORS WEBSITE](#)

- Mayor Hovland and Mayor Carter have been invited to participate in the Climate Mayors Steering Committee.
- This national committee of mayors is comprised of 24 mayors, with two Minnesota mayors now amongst them.
  - This committee will serve to galvanize city climate leadership among Climate Mayors' 400+ network members
  - December 3, 2019 – "Climate Mayors, the network of 438 U.S. mayors across the country committed to upholding the Paris Climate Agreement, announced the launch of a new Steering Committee, led by twenty-four mayors who will serve as critical voices within the network and across the country to spotlight climate leadership exhibited in cities throughout the United States. The Climate Mayors' Steering Committee makes clear that mayors across the country have and will continue to step up and lead on climate, regardless of the decisions made at the federal level."
- When thinking about climate crisis people don't automatically think of Minnesota, but we are experiencing flooding, freeze/thaw, bluff collapses, all items affected by a changing climate.
- We are not doing this work in isolation. This committee is an opportunity to connect with other Climate Mayors and work together on a national scale.

## SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT, TARGET CORPORATION:

- Target is a founding sponsor of the Regional Council of Mayors. We thank Alfonso Cornish on behalf of Target Corporation, for their continued commitment and partnership.

Target is working on sustainability goals including:

- Goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Source all electricity from renewable sources by 2030
  - There are currently 500 Target stores with solar, 6 stores in MN with solar.
  - 100 electric vehicle charging stalls will start to roll out in 2020.

# COMMISSIONER LAURA BISHOP: MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY - GOVERNOR'S CLIMATE CABINET:

## [LINK TO PRESENTATION](#)

- Climate change is one of the greatest threats to our families and communities. It's no longer a "far-off possibility" – it's happening here in Minnesota. Some of the main ways we're seeing climate change today:
  - Warmer and wetter
  - Changing our cherished ecosystems
  - More extreme precipitation events
  - Experiencing more damaging rains, and they're occurring more frequently now. The 2010s was Minnesota's wettest decade on record.
- One Minnesota Climate Vision: Establish and accelerate policies that put Minnesota on track to meet or exceed our greenhouse gas goals and achieve greater resiliency in the face of climate change.
- In December, Gov. Walz signed [Executive Order 19-37](#)
  - The Executive Order establishes a new Climate Change Subcabinet, comprised of 15 members representing all state agencies and departments.
  - The Executive Order also establishes a new citizens group called the "Climate Change Advisory Council," to advise the Subcabinet.

### Areas of focus:

- Clean Cars MN – In 2016, transportation became the largest source of GHG emissions in Minnesota – which means it's also the largest opportunity for us to make a difference, if we focus our efforts here.
  - Should see a draft of the rule by end of Feb or early March.
- Transportation: Heavy-duty EVs, EV school buses, EV corridors, EV infrastructure, and a biofuels council.
- 100% clean energy by 2050
- Sustainable Communities and Climate Resiliency Initiative: focus on water infrastructure – fund 10 pilot projects.
- GreenStep Cities

# NICK MARTIN: MANAGER, ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

## XCEL ENERGY'S VISION FOR ECONOMY-WIDE CARBON REDUCTION:

### [LINK TO PRESENTATION](#)

- Xcel Energy serves eight states: 3.6 million electricity customers and 2 million natural gas customers (Natural gas in 3 states including MN).
- By 2030, Xcel's goal is to reduce carbon emissions 80 percent from 2005 levels (our previous goal was 60 percent)
  - This can be achieved reliably and affordably with continued fleet transition and operational changes, and with the renewable and carbon-free generation and energy storage technologies available today
- By 2050, we aspire to serve customers in all of our states with 100 percent carbon-free electricity
  - We will continue increasing renewable energy on our system, as well as technologies that enable renewables

- These technologies include new carbon-free dispatchable technologies that are not yet commercially available
- Drivers of Xcel's goal:
  - Community and customer demand for clean energy, investor pressure, investment opportunity, climate change risk, do our part and lead the industry to do the same.

### **80% Reduction by 2030**

We anticipate:

- Adding thousands of megawatts of wind and solar power to our system
- Incorporating both natural gas and storage resources to help balance high levels of renewables
- Supporting strategic electrification of certain end uses to further reduce emissions in other areas of the economy
- Operating our nuclear plants through the remainder of their licenses
- Retiring additional coal units or changing their operations to minimize emissions affordably and reliably
- Making critical investments in supportive infrastructure, such as transmission

### **100% Carbon-Free by 2050**

Going carbon-free for the last 20% comes along with challenging obstacles and will require technology that does not really exist yet. (Hydrogen, dispatchable renewables, natural gas with carbon capture)

- Coal retirement – Xcel will exist coal in 2030. Under approved plans, from 2005 to 2027, Xcel expects to retire 23 coal units, representing about half of the coal-fueled generation it owns. Under the Upper Minnesota Energy Plan, they have proposed retiring more coal, eliminating all of Xcel's coal generation in the Upper Midwest.
- Today more than 55% of our energy comes from carbon-free sources. By 2024, our energy in the Upper Midwest will be about 65% carbon-free.
- By 2030, 78% of the energy we provide will come from carbon-free sources.
- Accelerating the closure of our coal plants is the most significant step we can take in the short term to reduce carbon emissions, helping us reach our goals faster.

### Take-Home Messages

1. Affordable, reliable, low-carbon electricity is possible
2. Achieving climate goals requires *economy-wide* reductions
3. We can work with communities on building resilient systems and creating a just transition

**RICK CARTER, LHB AND ABBY FINIS, GREAT PLAINS INSTITUTE NICK REGIONAL INDICATORS INITIATIVE – CITY DATA AND ACTION:**

[LINK TO PRESENTATION](#)

[LINK TO REGIONAL INDICATORS INITIATIVE WEBSITE](#)

[LINK TO ENERGY PLANNING WEDGE TOOL](#)

Rick Carter, LHB Inc., [Rick.Carter@LHBcorp.com](mailto:Rick.Carter@LHBcorp.com)

- The Regional Indicators Initiative has collected up to ten years of city-wide energy, travel, water, and waste data – and translated these primary metrics into greenhouse gas emissions – for 64 Minnesota cities, representing 44% of the State's population.
  - The data are publicly available on the Regional Indicators website, where you can break out commercial energy use from residential, look at your city's trends over time, and compare yourself to other cities.
  - As a State, we missed our 2015 goal and will not meet our 2025 goal without continued support and additional effort. Cities can help with this by reducing their emissions at an even steeper rate.
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- Regional Indicators Initiative website, is used to explore your historic data.
  - Wedge Tool: the wedge diagram tool is to forecast city-specific emissions through 2040 and enable cities to test how different strategies impact their ability to meet their goals. 30 of 57 cities have wedge tool available.

Abby Finis, Great Plains Institute, [AFinis@gpisd.net](mailto:AFinis@gpisd.net)

- Trends in 2040 Comprehensive Plans: Over 100 including solar requirements. 26 are SolSmart designation, 55 are GreenStep cities, 36 resilience chapters, 31 want energy plan, 32 want climate plan.
- Moving forward with climate action:
  - Complete a Climate Action Plan
  - Utilize available resources to implement climate/energy actions:
    - GreenStep Cities best practice actions
    - Met Council tools
    - Regional Indicators Initiative/LoGoPEP tools
  - Climate Action Work Plans (usually a 1 year process to create this plan)

## CALL TO ACTION, MN ADVANCED BUILDING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:

[LINK TO PRESENTATION](#)

[LINK TO HANDOUT](#)

[LINK TO ADVANCED ENERGY STANDARDS EVENT](#)

[LINK TO DRAFT RESOLUTION](#)

Call to Action: MN Advanced Building Performance Standards

The State of Minnesota, and many Minnesota cities, have climate action goals that call for an 80% reduction of GHG emissions by 2050, but we are not on track to meet these goals.

- Cities Advanced Building Performance Working Group:
  - 3-Meeting Process completed October-November to hear interests and perspectives on this topic
  - More than 20 cities engaged
  - The leadership group alone represents 1,000,000 Minnesotans
- State Stakeholder Process
  - At the direction of the Governor, two agencies are leading a broad stakeholder process to consider this issue:
    - Dept. of Labor and Industry & Dept. of Commerce. Lead by Commissioners Leppink and Kelley
    - Deliverable: Policy Recommendations to the Governor
- **City Leaders Education Event**
  - Mayors, CC Members, and City Administrators (and invited staff)
  - Thu, February 13, 2020, 8:45 AM – 10:30 AM, [RSVP HERE](#)

# ATTENDANCE

## MAYORS

James Hovland	City of Edina (co-chair)
Mike Maguire	City of Eagan (co-chair)
Doug Anderson	City of Lakeville
Kirt Briggs	City of Prior Lake
Anne Burt	City of Woodbury
Tim Busse	City of Bloomington
Melvin Carter	City of Saint Paul
William Droste	City of Rosemount
Jacob Frey	City of Minneapolis
Mary Gaasch	City of Lauderdale
Jason Gadd	City of Hopkins
Kathi Hemken	City of New Hope
Courtney Johnson	City of Carver
Marvin Johnson	City of Independence
Chris Lund	City of Hamburg
Dan Lund	City of Newport
Sandy Martin	City of Shoreview
Tim McNeil	City of Dayton
Rhonda Pownell	City of Northfield
Maria Regan Gonzalez	City of Richfield
Randy Stille	City of Saint Anthony
Janet Williams	City of Savage

## ADVISORY BOARD

Jeremy Jacobs	Management Committee, Chair
John Breitingner	Governance Committee
Joe Brown	UrbanPlan Co-Chair
Lynette Dumalag	Management Committee
Bob Engstrom	ULI Life Trustee
Alex Frank	REDi Co-Chair
Emily Goellner	UrbanPlan Co-Chair
Jessie Houlihan	Management Committee
Pat Mascia	Governance Committee
Meg McMonigal	Community Devel. Co-Chair
Tammy Omdal	Advisory Services Co-Chair
John Shardlow	Governance Committee
Jeff Schoeneck	Housing Council Co-Chair
Herb Tousley	Resilient Communities Co-Chair
Julie Wischnack	Community Devel. Co-Chair
Jerilynn Young	Housing Council Co-Chair

## GUESTS

Becky Alexander, LHB; Sara Barrow, Xcel Energy; Commissioner Laura Bishop, MPCA; Tara Brown, City of Edina; Rick Carter, LHB; Mark Casey, City of Saint Anthony Village; Alfonso Cornish, Target Corporation; Molly Cummings, Met Council; Abby Finis; Great Plains Institute; Debbie Goettel, Hennepin County; Kim Havey; City of Minneapolis; Megan Hoye, Center for Energy & Environment; Sandra Krebsbach, American Technical Education Association; Brad Larson, City of Savage; Jay Lindgren, Dorsey & Whitney; Nick Martin, Xcel Energy; Craig McDonnell, MPCA; Patricia Nauman, Metro Cities; Diane Norman; Beth Novak-Krebs; Ben Rabe, Fresh Energy; Heidi Ritchie, City of Minneapolis; Russ Stark, City of St. Paul; Paula Sunde, Office of US Senator Tina Smith; Michelle Swanson, Xcel Energy; Dave Unmacht, League of MN Cities; Jamie Verbrugge, City of Bloomington; Jason Wedel, City of Prior Lake; Jonathan Weinhagen; Minneapolis Regional Chamber; Alyssa Wetzels-Moore, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency; ThaoMee Xiong, City of Saint Paul, Office of Mayor Carter;

## ULI MINNESOTA

Caren Dewar, Cathy Bennett, Rachel Keenan, Kevin Locke

# NEXT MEETING

Monday, February 10, 2020

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Seattle Room at Dorsey & Whitney, 50 South 6th Street, Minneapolis, MN