

## **Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program: Implementation Grants**

### **Reducing Emissions in Maine's Buildings & Transportation Systems: Accelerating Climate Progress Equitably throughout a Rural State**

#### **TEAM BIOGRAPHIES**

##### **Biographies of Key Personnel**

###### **Hannah Pingree | Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future | Director**

Hannah Pingree was appointed to lead Governor Mills' Office of Policy Innovation and the Future in January 2019. Hannah previously served as Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives from 2008 to 2010. She also served as the Maine House Majority Leader, Chair of the Committee on Health and Human Services, and as a member of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs during her terms in Maine Legislature from 2002 - 2010. Hannah spearheaded successful legislation on energy, broadband, housing, environmental health, and health care during her time in office. Hannah has worked for a technology start-up in New York City; managed several family small businesses; led the development of rural housing, energy efficiency, and eldercare projects for a coalition of community non-profits; chaired her local school board; and served on numerous state and community non-profit boards.

###### **Sarah Curran | Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future | Deputy Director, Climate Planning and Community Partnerships**

Sarah Curran, Deputy Director of Climate Planning and Community Partnerships at the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future, will serve as the Project Director for *Reducing Emissions in Maine's Buildings & Transportation Systems: Accelerating Climate Progress Equitably throughout a Rural State*. As the Deputy Director, she leads climate policy planning and climate-related programs to support Maine communities, including the climate planning process to develop and implement *Maine Won't Wait*, the state's 4-year climate action plan. Prior to joining the Governor's Office, she worked for the Maine Development Foundation, where she served as Program Director for Forest Opportunity Roadmap (FOR/Maine), a collaborative effort by industry and community stakeholders to strengthen and grow Maine's forest products industry and reinvest in rural communities impacted by mill closures. Sarah has more than a decade of community and economic development experience working with Maine communities and non-profit organizations. From 2007-2016, Sarah worked as a consultant with Planning Decisions, Inc. a Maine-based research and planning firm.

###### **Brian Ambrette | Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future | Senior Climate Resilience Coordinator**

Brian Ambrette is the Senior Climate Resilience Coordinator at the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future. Mr. Ambrette supports the Maine Climate Council and the development and implementation of Maine's four-year climate action plan. His focus is on enabling state- and community-level actions that address risks to vulnerable infrastructure and populations, as well as accelerating the transition to clean energy and energy efficiency. Mr. Ambrette oversees the Community Resilience Partnership grant program, which has awarded over \$6 million to municipal, regional, and tribal

projects. He manages two federal grant awards for GOPIF: a FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) award for a climate vulnerability assessment of state-owned facilities and a DOE Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant to support energy and resilience in disadvantaged communities. Previously, Mr. Ambrette was the Director of Strategic Initiatives at the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy in Maryland where his work included capacity building in rural coastal communities focused on climate resilience, hazard mitigation, and conservation. During that time, he served as a member of the Maryland Climate Change Commission's Adaptation & Response Working Group. He holds a Master of Environmental Management degree from Yale University's School of the Environment and bachelor's degree from Middlebury College.

#### **Michael Stoddard | Efficiency Maine Trust | Executive Director**

Michael directs a \$100 million/year quasi-state agency in Maine administering programs to lower energy costs and environmental impacts by increasing the use of cost-effective energy efficiency and alternative energy projects. Duties include strategic planning, general counsel, leading a staff of 25 professionals (and dozens of subcontractors), government relations, and media relations.

Previously Michael was an advocate and Deputy Director at the Acadia Center (formerly Environment Northeast) where he was principal co-author and editor of the Climate Change Roadmap for New England and Eastern Canada. Michael served on the Maine Energy Conservation Board and the Maine Governor's Energy Task Force, and served as co-chair of the Connecticut State Implementation Plan Revision Advisory Committee (SIPRAC). Michael did a bi-weekly environmental segment on the syndicated talk radio show Money Matters. Before joining ENE, Michael consulted to the Conservation Law Foundation, the Clean Energy Group, the Clean Air Task Force, the Renewable Energy Alliance, and Green Mountain Energy. He also worked with the National Association of State Attorneys General and the Federal Trade Commission to develop guidelines for the marketing of environmentally preferable ("green") energy. Earlier, Michael worked as an election law specialist at the Federal Election Commission (FEC), and at the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) on projects in Africa and Latin America. He serves on the board of E2Tech and the Psalmodi Foundation for Archeological Research.

#### **Melanie Loyzim | Department of Environmental Protection | Commissioner, co-chair of the Maine Climate Council**

Melanie Loyzim is the Commissioner of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (Maine DEP). She has been with the agency since 2006, and has served in a variety of roles including underground tank inspector, air toxics and emissions inventory program manager, director of Bureau of Air Quality and the Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management and most recently as deputy commissioner. Prior to her tenure at Maine DEP, she worked for Colorado's Department of Public Health and Environment in their emissions inventory program and as a rule writer. She also has experience as an Environmental, Health and Safety Consultant, a Site Health and Safety Officer, and 40-hour HAZWOPER trainer.

### **Joyce Taylor | Department of Transportation | Chief Engineer**

Joyce Taylor is the chief engineer for the Maine Department of Transportation. She joined the department in 1999 and has risen through the ranks holding several key positions. Chief Engineer Taylor first worked in the construction division as its environmental engineer and held various positions, including Bureau Director of Project Development before becoming Chief Engineer in 2013. She has worked on various high-profile department projects, most recently heading the Sarah Mildred Long project between Maine and New Hampshire. Joyce Taylor was the first president of Maine's newly-formed chapter of Women in Transportation. She is an active participant on the Council of Highways and Streets of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). She also serves as the Vice-Chair on the AASHTO Committee on Design, Co-Chair of the Climate Council's Transportation Working Group as well as serving on the Maine Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers. She graduated from the University of Maine at Orono in 1986 with a BS in Chemical Engineering.

### **Dan Burgess | Governor's Energy Office | Director**

Dan Burgess was appointed as Director of the Governor's Energy Office by Governor Janet Mills in 2019. As Director of GEO, Dan advises the Governor, leads the state's energy office and its dynamic team, represents Maine in regional and national forums, and serves on the board of the Efficiency Maine Trust as well as the board of the National Association of State Energy Officials. Born and raised in Central Maine (Newport), Dan returned to his home state of Maine to build upon eight years of leadership experience in clean energy development. Prior to his current role at GEO, Dan served as Deputy Commissioner and Chief of Staff at the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, in Boston, MA and prior to that as Acting Commissioner. Before that, he worked as Legislative Director for Energy at the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs in Boston, MA. Dan earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Maine and a Master of Public Administration from Northeastern University.