EBC Leadership Series - MassDEP Regions and EOEEA Regional Climate Program
Deputy Commissioner Stephanie Cooper and the Western Region Leadership Team

And
Introducing the EOEEA Regional Climate Program Coordinator, Connecticut River Valley

Wednesday, November 6, 2019

Tighe & Bond | Westfield, Massachusetts

AGENDA

8:00 a.m. Welcome - Fran Hoey, Program Moderator
Vice Chair, EBC; Senior Vice President, Tighe & Bond

8:10 a.m. Review of MassDEP Program Priorities
• Stephanie Cooper, Deputy Commissioner for Policy and Planning
  Department of Environmental Protection
  Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
  Commonwealth of Massachusetts

8:45 a.m. Update from the MassDEP Western Region Leadership Team
• Michael Gorski, Regional Director
• Brian Harrington, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Water Resources
• Elizabeth Stinehart, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup
• Eva Tor, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Air & Waste

10:00 a.m. Networking Break

10:30 a.m. Introducing - Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program
• Andrew Smith, Climate Regional Coordinator –
  Greater Connecticut River Valley

10:45 a.m. Panel Discussion

Moderator: Fran Hoey, Vice Chair, EBC; Senior Vice President, Tighe & Bond

Panel Members:
• Stephanie Cooper, Deputy Commissioner
• Michael Gorski, Regional Director
• Brian Harrington, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Water Resources
• Elizabeth Stinehart, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup
• Eva Tor, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Air & Waste
• Andrew Smith, Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Coordinator

12:00 p.m. Adjourn
PROGRAM MODERATOR

Francis J. Hoey, Senior Vice President
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Fran is Tighe & Bond’s Business Unit Leader directing the firm's efforts in the Renewable Energy, Education, Healthcare, and Real Estate markets. He has served in a lead design and management role for many of our largest and most complex development projects. Fran is a Director of the firm, and also sits on the Board of Directors for the Environmental Business Council (EBC) of New England, as well as the Leadership Teams for the EBC Renewable Energy Committee and the EBC Connecticut Chapter. Fran has over a decade of experience on the Board, and is currently Chairman, of a large municipal electric company with electric generation, distribution, and transmission facilities – as well as natural gas distribution, state-of-the-art LNG vaporization, and advanced fiber optic network. He was recognized by the Boston Society of Civil Engineers for his public service efforts focusing on hydroelectric, gas, electric, and energy issues with the Lester Gaynor Award. He was recently invited by Secretary Sullivan to serve on Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Adaptation Advisory Committee, which will advise the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs on how to address the potential impacts of climate change. Fran holds professional registrations in two disciplines, civil and structural. He earned his bachelor of science in civil engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute; is a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional (LEED AP); and holds professional registrations in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, and New York.

MASS DEP OVERVIEW

Stephanie Cooper, Deputy Commissioner for Policy and Planning
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
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Stephanie Cooper was appointed as Deputy Commissioner for Policy & Planning for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection in December 2017. In this role she leads agency efforts pertaining to regulatory reform and manages priority initiatives related to air, waste, and water. She joined the agency in 2015, serving as Chief of Staff prior to assuming her current role. Previously, as Assistant Secretary at the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs, she guided the state's forestry policies and robust investment in land protection, focusing on urban parks, habitat reserves, and working landscapes. Prior to that, as Chief of Staff for the Department of Conservation and Recreation, she oversaw DCR's diverse responsibilities across a 450,000-acre forest and parks system. Previously, Stephanie served the City of New York in a variety of roles, including Chief of Staff for Operations and Director of Management Analysis at the NYC Department of Transportation, and in the Mayor's Office, where she was a liaison to transportation, environmental protection, and capital construction agencies. Her other prior experience includes consulting, community organizing and non-profit work. She holds a BA in political science from Middlebury College and a Master's in public administration from Syracuse University's Maxwell School.

MASS DEP WESTERN REGION LEADERSHIP – PANELISTS

Michael Gorski, Regional Director
Massachusetts DEP, Western Regional Office
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Michael J. Gorski is Regional Director for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), Western Region. He is responsible for the overall administration and operations of MassDEP’s Western Region, which encompasses 106 communities primarily in the four western counties of the Commonwealth.

Mike began his career in the private sector and has worked in the environmental, safety and health departments of industrial companies. He has had environmental management responsibilities in several states and Europe.

Mike earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Rochester Institute of Technology with concentrations in environmental science and emergency management. He has been an active volunteer on the State and Regional level. He has been a member of the State Emergency Response Commission, a member and chair of Local Emergency Planning Committees for several municipalities. Mike recently retired from the volunteer fire department in his home town of Hampden where he served for 34 years the last 10 years as chief.

Brian Harrington, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Water Resources
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Brian Harrington joined MassDEP in 2001 as Regional Counsel. In 2002, Brian was appointed Deputy Regional Director for the Bureau of Resource Protection (now Bureau of Water Resources) in the Western Region. That Bureau oversees Drinking Water, Wastewater, Wetlands and the Municipal Services Program.

Prior to joining MassDEP, Brian was an attorney in Private Practice for 12 years in the Springfield Area practicing corporate, business and real estate law. Brian was formerly a City Councilor in Northampton and a member of the Board of Public works. In addition to coaching youth sports, Brian has also served on a variety of committees in Northampton including the State Hospital Advisory Committee, Regional Solid Waste Planning Committee, Florence Plan Committee, Superintendent Search Committee and as Moderator of the Expiring Use (affordable housing) Committee. Brian presently serves on the Board of Directors of Freedom Credit Union.

Brian’s experience as an attorney representing businesses, as a former City Councilor and Board of Public Works member, and as a current Board Member at Freedom Credit Union allows him, as a regulator, provides him an understanding of the needs and interests of businesses and communities as they interact with MassDEP.

Andrew Smith, Climate Regional Coordinator
Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program
Greater Connecticut River Valley
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Andrew Smith is a long-time resident of the Connecticut River Valley, where he lives with his wife and three energetic children. Serving as the Greater Connecticut River Valley Coordinator for the MVP program is the natural continuation of a career that has allowed him to work on matters of climate adaptation and climate mitigation during his tenure as the City of Holyoke’s first Director of Conservation and Sustainability. Throughout the arc of Andrew’s career—whether working on permitting, urban forestry, climate-driven migration or land acquisition—the role a municipality can play in making our Commonwealth more resilient in the face of climate change has served as the organizing principal
of his work. He received a M.R.P. from the University of Massachusetts with a focus on Environmental Planning.

Elizabeth Stinehart, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup
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Elizabeth Stinehart has over 26 years with MassDEP and was recently appointed as the Acting Deputy Regional Director (DRD) of the Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup, Western Regional Office. Elizabeth started with the agency pioneering the first Regional Service Center providing outreach and pre-permitting services; she then moved to Regional Administrator for 4 years and was promoted to DRD of the Bureau of Administrative Services where she has spent the past 18 years handling the administrative functions of the region including permits administration. Prior to coming to MassDEP, Elizabeth worked with the Division of Conservation Services at the Executive Office of (Energy and) Environmental Affairs where she managed the Urban Self-Help grant program. She holds a B.S. in Environmental Education from Pennsylvania State University and an M.Ed. in Management from Cambridge College in Cambridge. In her new role as Acting DRD, Elizabeth is eager to get back to her roots of environmental science and continue the bureau's efforts to minimize risks and reduce environmental hazards as well as facilitate re-development through the Brownfields Program.

Eva Tor, P.E., Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Air & Waste
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Eva Tor is the Deputy Regional Director of the Bureau of Air and Waste, Western Regional Office. Prior to that she was the Deputy Regional Director of the Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup. She has been with DEP for over 20 years where she most recently oversaw cleanup of contaminated sites in the region. Some significant sites she's worked on include the GE Housatonic PCB Superfund site, cleanup and redevelopment of the Facemate/Uniroyal Brownfields site in Chicopee and current cleanup efforts on emerging contaminant sites in Westfield (PFAS) and Warren (1,4-Dioxane). Eva also oversaw the Western Region's incorporation of the Asbestos program into Waste Site Cleanup. Prior to working in the Waste Site Cleanup Program, Eva worked for many years in DEP's Drinking Water Program, specializing in water treatment plant process work as well as watershed protection considerations for unfiltered systems. Prior to coming to MassDEP, Eva worked in the environmental engineering consulting industry. She is a registered Professional Engineer in Massachusetts and received a B.S. in Civil Engineering and an M.S. in Environmental Engineering from the University of Illinois in Urbana Champaign. Eva looks forward to now working on promoting the Commonwealth's initiatives on air quality and climate change, management of solid and hazardous wastes, and the promotion of waste reduction and recycling efforts.

UPCOMING EBC PROGRAMS

NOVEMBER 2019
November 7 – Connecticut Emerging Contaminants Program: PCB Wastes
November 8 – Annual Ocean and Coastal Resources Dredging Conference
November 12 – Solid Waste Management Program: Impact of PFAS on Solid Waste Operations
November 13 – Evening Program: Update from MWRA Executive Director Fred Laskey
November 14 – New Hampshire Climate Change Update
November 15 – Climate Change Matchmaking Forum
November 19 – Dam Management Program: Permitting & Funding for Removal
November 22 – Climate Adaptation Forum – Infrastructure
DECEMBER 2019
December 3 – Rhode Island Enforcement Program with DEM & EPA
December 5 – Annual Winter Garden Party