

Minutes 7th May 2024

Introduction

Steve Cavanaugh opens the meeting with a greeting, introduction of new members, and preview of the agenda topics.

The meeting minutes are available on the Meetings Recap page at www.LEIgroup.org/recaps

Outreach and Education

Led by Steve Cavanaugh, and Andrew McCarthy. We want to be sure that we continue to educate others on the methodology while working to improve it. Several members stepped up to emphasize that we need to tell the story on this carbon reducing practice. It is also worth noting that we need to convey the carbon reduction benefits in other units in addition to tonnage. Most people do not completely understand what the tonnage figures mean.

Case Studies

The group continues to promote progress in bringing case studies by posting a case study template that is meant to help guide utilities in putting together their own case studies based on previously completed leakage reduction projects. This template is available on the LEI website. We also want to emphasize that projecting benefits for a utility who has yet to complete an NRW project would also be helpful as projects that are ready to go could use this information to procure the carbon-based funding.

We also need to be adding elements to our case studies that tell the story of what we are doing. This includes the cost of the project along with water and carbon benefits. Equivalencies that can help tell the story better such as how many cars are removed from the road in relation to the carbon tons we are saving. We should be very vocal in telling the stories of how much water is saved through these projects. We need to continue collecting the relevant data so that we can make these adjustments. This will help us tell the multidimensional benefits that these projects bring which will help to raise the profile of these projects over pure carbon reduction-based projects.

Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Advancement

By compiling these case studies, we want to have effective information to approach governments both nationally and internationally to show the effectiveness of these programs as part of their nationally determined contribution (NDC) strategy. NDCs are targets set by countries and other forms of government to reduce carbon emissions amongst their people and businesses to targets set in pursuit of carbon neutrality. Showing NRW projects as a viable path to NDC goals will help expose NRW projects to funding set aside for carbon specific projects. This will be exceptionally valuable for governments that also fund their constituent water utilities.

Next meeting – TBD

Attendance:

Alan Wyatt
Alvaro Ramalho
Arnaud Brunelle
Alexandru Aldea
Aisha Mamade
Daniele Malpelli
Barareh Joharinad
Miguel Lima
Koral Wojciech
Alberto Gambardella
Bruno Dura
Michael Thomas
Holger Suhr Pederson
Alvaro Ramalho
Dewi Rogers
Steve Cavanaugh
Marion Liemberger
Redmer van netten
Mary Ann Dickinson
Margie Hunter
Andrew McCarthy
Will Jernigan
Marilia Lara
Michael Thompson
Alberto Gambardella
Thiago Theodoro