OFFICE of the GOVERNOR
JOHN BEL EDWARDS

State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR – COASTAL ACTIVITIES

CERTIFICATION OF INABILITY TO MEET IN PERSON DUE TO COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE OF THE LOUISIANA CLIMATE INITIATIVES TASK FORCE

In accordance with La. R.S. 42:17.1 and Executive Proclamation Number 168 JBE 2020, this notice shall serve as a certification of the Manufacturing and Industry Committee of the Louisiana Climate Initiatives Task Force ("Committee") inability to otherwise operate in accordance with the Louisiana Open Meetings Law as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Committee will provide for attendance and quorum at its essential government meeting on December 14, 2020, via video conference. Pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17.1, the Committee must meet because:

1) Matters that, if they are delayed, will cause curtailment of vital public services or severe economic dislocation and hardship. The Committee is tasked with helping to identify and formulate recommendations for reducing the state's net greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions. These recommendations will "reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that are driving up global temperatures, raising sea levels, and increasing risks that threaten our health and safety, quality of life, economic growth, and vital habitats and ecosystems." Executive Order JBE 2020-18. Because the Committee plays a critical role in the state's effort to reduce GHG emissions and because time is of the essence in realizing these emissions reductions, its continued function during this pandemic is essential, and failing to timely meet would result in the curtailment of vital public services or severe economic dislocation and hardship.
2) Matters that are critical to continuation of the business of the public body and that are not able to be postponed to a meeting held in accordance with the other provisions of this Chapter due to a legal requirement or other deadline that cannot be postponed or delayed by the public body. Executive Order JBE 2020-18 sets a February 1, 2021, deadline for an interim report of the Climate Initiatives Task Force and a February 1, 2022, deadline for a final report of the Climate Initiatives Task Force. In order to fulfill the deadlines mandated in Executive Order JBE 2020-18, Committee's operations cannot be postponed to after the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Considering the foregoing, and in accordance with La. R.S. 42:17.1 and Executive Proclamation Number 168 JBE 2020, the Board's meeting on Monday, December 14, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. will be held via video conference and in a manner that allows for observation and input by members of the public, as set forth in the Notice posted no later than Friday, December 11, 2020. All public comments received before and during the meeting will be properly identified and acknowledged during the meeting.

Certified this 4th day of Dec 2020.

Timothy W. Hardy
Committee Co-Chair

Committee Co-Chair