CLIMATE
INITIATIVES
TASK
FORCE

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR – COASTAL ACTIVITIES

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

In accordance with La. R.S. 42:17.1 and Executive Proclamations Number 79 JBE 2021, this notice shall serve as a certification of the Transportation Sector Committee ("Sector Committee") of the Louisiana Climate Initiatives Task Force ("Task Force") inability to otherwise operate in accordance with the Louisiana Open Meetings Law as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Sector Committee will provide for attendance and quorum at its essential government meeting on May 21, 2021, via video conference. Pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17.1, the Sector 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 Sector Committee is tasked with helping the Task Force 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 Task Force 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, 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, the Task Force and Committee operations cannot be postponed to after the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Considering the foregoing, and in accordance with La. 42:17.1 and Executive Proclamations 79 JBE 2021, the Sector Committee meeting on Friday, May 21, 2021, at 9:30 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 Thursday, May 20, 2021. All public comments received before and during the meeting will be properly identified and acknowledged during the meeting.

Certified this 20th day of May, 2021.

Co-Chair

Co-Chair