

Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee
November 14, 2023: 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM ET
U.S. Department of Commerce – Commerce Research Library

The Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC) convened the fourth meeting under its 2022 – 2024 charter from 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM ET on November 14, 2023. The meeting was hybrid and included both virtual and in-person attendance. In-person participants met at the Commerce Research Library in the Herbert C. Hoover Building.

ETTAC Members Present:

Ms. Adina Renee Adler
Mr. Randy Baerg
Ms. Dana Blumberg
Mr. Chuck Chaitovitz
Ms. Lina Chiaverini
Ms. Anne Germain
Ms. Cynthia Hartley
Mr. Max Herzog
Mr. Rick Hill
Ms. Carrie Houtman
Ms. Tasha Jamaluddin
Ms. Debra Johnson
Mr. Ajay Kasarabada
Mr. Carlos Lemos
Mr. Ashish Raval
Mr. Eric Reading
Mr. Ben Rubin
Ms. Clare Schulzki
Mr. Stephen Strachan
Mr. John Trofatter
Ms. Pauli Undesser
Mr. Craig Updyke
Mr. Roberto Vengoechea
Mr. George Vorsheim
Mr. Sean Wihera
Dr. Peter Zemek

Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration (ITA) Officials Present:

Megan Hyndman, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), ETTAC
Tricia Van Orden, Director, Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee Secretariat, ITA
Anna Cron, International Trade Specialist, OEEI
Alec Hilton, International Trade Specialist, OEEI
Evelina Scott, International Trade Specialist, OEEI
Christian Herman, International Trade Specialist, OEEI
Marisel Trespalacios, International Trade Specialist, Office of Materials Industries

Other U.S. Government Officials Present:

Jennifer Powell, Lead International Trade Analyst, U.S. International Trade Commission
Sarah Bonner, Senior International Trade Policy Specialist, Small Business Administration
Rachel Westrate, International Environmental Program Specialist, EPA

Members of the Public Present:

David Kempisty, Director, Montrose Environmental Services
Oliver Ward, Trade Policy Reporter, Inside U.S. Trade

November 14 MEETING MINUTES**Welcome and Committee Business**

DFO Hyndman and ETTAC Chair Schulzki welcomed the committee members and motioned to begin the meeting. DFO Hyndman provided an overview of the agenda. The committee approved the previous (September 26) meeting minutes.

Subcommittee Readouts & Discussion

Chair Schulzki asked each subcommittee to provide a readout of the issues they have identified for potential ETTAC recommendation topics. The Climate, Emerging Technology, & Innovation Subcommittee noted it is working on two recommendation letters regarding indoor air quality technologies and low-energy water recycling. The Trade Facilitation, Competitiveness, & Standards Subcommittee discussed their prior subcommittee meeting and briefed the ETTAC on their completion of two recommendations. They also stated their plans to recommend ways to improve the harmonization of standards.

The committee also discussed current draft recommendations including on indoor air quality and Inflation Reduction Act 45Q tax incentives for Carbon Capture and Sequestration projects.

Briefing on the 2023 National Export Strategy

ITA staff Tricia Van Orden, Director of the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee Secretariat, and Chris Herman, International Trade Specialist with the Office of Energy and Environmental Industries, provided a briefing on the 2023 National Export Strategy, including a detailed overview of the Climate and Clean Technologies chapter. Members and ITA staff discussed NES priorities and Department of Commerce resources relating to international standards harmonization and enforcement.

Sub-Sector Breakouts

The Committee split up into sub-sector breakout discussions on air pollution monitoring and control, water and wastewater treatment, and waste management and recycling, which allowed members to review industry-specific priorities and ensure they are being raised through the subcommittee recommendation development process.

Water and Wastewater Treatment

The water and wastewater breakout session discussed the lack of a U.S. national water strategy, the many competing uses of water, and the challenges around prioritization of water use. The session also discussed the water challenges linked to the scaling up of clean hydrogen and the

need for a comprehensive water analysis for hydrogen production. Next, the session discussed the need for potable water in many developing countries and the importance of standards and commercial diplomacy in the promotion of water quality solutions. The topics of water for hydrogen and the promotion of water quality solutions may be taken up as potential recommendation topics by the Climate, Emerging Technology & Innovation Subcommittee and the Trade Facilitation, Competitiveness & Standards Subcommittee respectively.

Air Pollution Monitoring & Control

The air pollution monitoring and control sub-sector breakout session discussed indoor air quality monitoring and filtration, air filtration and energy efficiency certifications, and accessible air metrics. Standards related to methane management were highlighted as were efforts for industry to work with the interagency on methane regulations. Instruments to collect volatile PFAS from air were discussed and the need to enhance the ability of EPA's national labs to analyze PFAS were highlighted as areas industry could better inform the U.S. government policy and programs.

Waste Management and Recycling

The waste and recycling sub-sector breakout session discussed the need for mitigating secondary contamination of PFAS in recycling and landfill sites. Standards pertaining to PFAS were highlighted and the need for better education in solid waste management and preventing secondary contamination were points for future discussion. The group highlighted two topics that may serve as future recommendations: exporting solid waste technology to prevent PFAS contamination in the solid waste management sector and preventing secondary contamination of PFAS in recycling and landfill sites.

Subcommittee Break-Out Meetings

The Committee split up into subcommittees to revisit the topics of interest they had expressed earlier in the day during their subcommittee readouts and refine potential recommendation topics in light of the day's briefings.

Climate, Emerging Technology, & Innovation Subcommittee

The Climate, Emerging Technology & Innovation Subcommittee discussed the status of the three recommendation letters in progress and the next steps for bringing them to the full Committee. The subcommittee also discussed new ideas for future recommendations, including improving public awareness of services provided by the U.S. government for small- and medium-enterprises, such as ITA's matchmaking services for U.S. companies seeking vetted international partners, and SBA's State Trade Expansion Program. The session also discussed resources for small businesses trying to ensure compliance with export regulations and discussed the challenges business face in accessing data. Additionally, the subcommittee noted how greater research and development on volatile PFAS could lead to growth in overseas business.

Supply Chain & Circular Economy Subcommittee

The Supply Chain & Circular Economy Subcommittee was briefed by Marisel Trespalacios from ITA's Office of Material Industries on her office's focus on PFAS and government resources for U.S. industry. There was also a brief discussion on recycling and the need to enhance capabilities for recycling batteries including electric vehicle batteries as well as regular lithium batteries.

Trade Facilitation, Competitiveness, & Standards Subcommittee

The Trade Facilitation, Competitiveness, and Standards Subcommittee discussed standards harmonization needs and noted the challenge of small and medium-sized businesses being unaware of ITA services. The subcommittee will explore drafting a recommendation to highlight ways that ITA can reach SMEs by engaging U.S. industry at a broader range of trade shows and events.

Update on Environmental Technologies Top Export Market Rankings

DFO Megan Hyndman provided a preview of the 2023 Environmental Technologies Top Export Market Rankings and received feedback from ETTAC members. DFO Hyndman noted that the Office of Energy and Environmental Industries will be finalizing the report over the next several months and will likely release it in early January.

Public Comment & Adjournment

The subcommittees agreed to work towards finalizing draft recommendation letters over the next several weeks and to convene a brief virtual ETTAC meeting in December to review and seek committee approval on outstanding letters. ETTAC Chair Clare Schulzki requested ETTAC members to complete the mid-charter survey. No issues were raised during the public comment period. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing meeting minutes are accurate and complete.



Megan Hyndman
Designated Federal Officer
Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee



Clare Schulzki
Chair
Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee