

GSA Acquisition Policy Federal Advisory Committee (GAP FAC) Industry Partnerships Subcommittee Meeting

December 21, 2022

The General Services Administration (GSA) Acquisition Policy Federal Advisory Industry Partnerships Subcommittee convened for the second public meeting at 3:00 PM on December 21, 2022, virtually via Zoom, with Kristin Seaver, Chairperson, and Farad Ali, Co-Chairperson, presiding.

In accordance with FACA, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App 2, the meeting was open to the public from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM EST

Subcommittee Members Present:

Kristin Seaver, Chairperson	<i>General Dynamics Information Technology</i>
Farad Ali, Co-Chairperson	<i>Asociar, LLC</i>
Denise Bailey	<i>Milligan Consulting, LLC</i>
Gail Bassette	<i>Bowie State University</i>
Nicole Darnall	<i>Arizona State University</i>
Mamie Mallory	<i>Mallory & Associates, LLC</i>
Stacy Smedley	<i>Building Transparency</i>
Dr. David Wagger	<i>Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries</i>
Dr. Kimberly Wise White	<i>American Chemistry Council</i>

Absent: Susan Lorenz-Fisher, Deryl McKissack, Nigel Stephens, Anish Tilak, Keith Tillage

Guest Speakers and Presenters:

Maria Swaby	<i>GSA Procurement Ombudsman & Industry Liaison</i>
Katie Miller	<i>Senior Leader for Climate Office of Industrial Climate Federal Acquisition Service, GSA</i>

GSA Staff Present:

Boris Arratia	<i>Designated Federal Officer</i>
Stephanie Hardison	<i>Deputy Designated Federal Officer</i>
David Cochenic	<i>GAP FAC Support Team</i>
Adam Sheldrick	<i>GAP FAC Support Team</i>

Skylar Holloway
Cindy Thompson
Daniel Swartz
Jill Lamoreaux

GAP FAC Support Team
Closed Captioner
ASL Interpreters
ASL Interpreters

CALL TO ORDER

Stephanie Hardison, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, opened the public meeting by welcoming the group before reminding the public that there would be time for comments and statements at the end of the meeting. Any written comments can be submitted through regulations.gov. Stephanie then performed a roll call to confirm attendance and a quorum. After the quorum was met, she turned the meeting over the Chairperson Kristin Seaver.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Subcommittee Chairperson Kristin Seaver welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for their participation before going over the agenda.

Co-Chairperson Farad Ali expressed his gratitude for everyone being here and participating.

Troy Cribb thanked Kristin & Farad for their leadership in the meetings and the participation of the subcommittee members. They look forward to the next full committee meeting in January and are impressed with everyone's enthusiasm, engagement, and willingness to take on these complex issues.

Kristin Seaver turned things over to Boris Arratia to introduce speaker Maria Swaby.

INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS SUBCOMMITTEE SPEAKER AND DISCUSSION

Maria Swaby gave a brief introduction of her background within GSA. She gave an overview of what happens in the Office of Procurement Ombudsman (OPO), the challenges they face and where she sees opportunities for the GAP FAC to help.

The Office of Procurement Ombudsman (OPO) was created in 2014 to foster healthy and productive relationships between GSA and its Industry Partners. One of the main purposes is to provide early intervention to resolve differences and reduce the likelihood of formal protests, disputes, and lawsuits. They have found that numerous litigations or disputes stem from people being unable to talk to someone. This office gives contractors an avenue to be heard to prevent litigations and disputes. This involves a lot of collaborations within GSA itself. They want to build the right

relationships with suppliers and ensure equitable treatment of all parties participating in GSA's acquisition activities. Most contractors or businesses don't have the resources or lawyers to navigate the federal marketplace. The OPO wants to ensure they don't need a lawyer to be heard.

The OPO has many stakeholders since they deal with many small businesses. Industry contractors and other government agencies who have issues navigating the federal marketplace will come to them on behalf of their vendors. The Office of Federal Procurement Policy is another stakeholder since it sets policy that affects how they operate. Within GSA, they work closely with many different offices. The Federal Acquisition Service (FAS), Office of Small Business Utilization (OSBU), and the Public Building Service (PBS) are the three industry partners the OPO interacts with on a day-to-day basis.

The functions of the OPO are to foster healthy relationships, which is the original thought as to why it was created. Maria spends most of her work providing early intercession in the acquisition process to resolve disputes before escalation. They receive complaints on a variety of issues in terms of contracting. She stated people want to be heard and if you take the time to listen to them, a lot of the issues would go away. Even if they didn't get the outcome they wanted, they at least got heard. The OPO also conducts educational awareness campaigns, which is the bulk of the presentation. From their work, they receive recommendations into insight areas that GSA can approve within their procurement systems. They also share lessons learned and best practices. The final role Maria plays is as a task and delivery order ombudsman. You can't protest a task order unless it meets certain criteria. There's a dollar threshold for DoD, or civilian agencies or it's a scope issue that doesn't give people with certain complaints an avenue to be heard. This task and delivery order ombudsman is where you can file a complaint and have the opportunity to be heard.

The education and awareness campaigns inform people about new laws, regulations, executive orders, and rules. It also touches on anything pertaining to acquisition that has GSA wide and/or federal government-wide applicability, has a high impact on GSA's contract community, is highly visible or controversial, and is complicated to understand. GSA, Federal Acquisition Service (FAS), and Public Building Service (PBS) are the experts engaging with their industry partners. Still, when it comes to more complicated and high-level issues, the OPO will make coordinated efforts to make sure that their business partners understand what's going on.

Our goal is to take these complicated laws and regulations and translate them into non-technical language that contractors can understand. We work to convey the new laws and regulations, how they can impact contractors and what they will require. Contractors are also informed about how GSA will implement these laws on a policy and operational contracting side.

A big campaign that came out of the OPO was geared toward Executive Order 14042 mandating the implementation of vaccination for all contractors that do business with the federal government. It affected every contractor in the United States and caused high anxiety in the contracting community. The OPO gathered feedback on this Executive order on their pain points or what needed to be addressed. With this information, the OPO fed it back to the policymakers, so they were informed of the concerns when writing the rules. GSA conducted webinars with the GSA senior procurement executives presenting information from FAS & PBS and breaking down what the mandate required along with implementation. The number of questions prompted the OPO to create a website to answer all questions pertaining to the mandate. This is an example of education awareness that the OPO conducts.

She mentioned that they recognize that they can't have proper government industry engagement without the workforce being involved since part of what they are trying to do is to change the culture. One of the myth busting memos set out by the Office of Procurement Policy (OFPP) was the belief that industry engagement is not good. The OPO set out to educate and change that mindset. Everyone talks about engagement with the industry, but there were no resources to do so at the time. Maria Swaby researched to create a course using these myth busting memos along with other internal GSA material. This course was created for the GSA acquisition workforce to educate them on issues, and it was put on GSA's online university, which is internal to GSA. OFPP tasked her with creating this course for the entire federal workforce. She proceeded to publish a government/industry engagement article in the Federal Acquisition Institute (FAI) newsletter and created a YouTube version of the government/industry engagement course.

We are looking to increase business with small businesses, especially from underserved communities, to increase equity. While funding is available for projects that advance climate goals, GSA doesn't have a sense of what the key resources are to help communicate climate and sustainability to this audience. We don't know how to communicate and reach these small businesses. If the subcommittee can help curate content to help companies unfamiliar with federal acquisition that needs to educate on climate and sustainability. We must find ways to communicate to vendors what this is

and what it does. Assistance with that would be helpful. We want to reach prospective contractors to help them understand the requirements to make the internal business case to pursue GSA opportunities and to evaluate the cost. She stated, if we can do that for sustainability, we will have a model we can replicate and use with any topic.

Maria Swaby turned the conversation over to Katie Miller.

Katie is the Senior Leader for Climate and leads climate and sustainability work and creates a foundation to progress it into the future. She covered an overview of the Federal Acquisition Service (FAS), examples of FAS industry engagements on climate and sustainability, and key challenges they face.

The role of FAS is to deliver a wide range of products and services to all federal agencies at the best value. They focus on products and services related to technology, motor vehicles, travel, transportation, procurement, and online acquisition tools. They have three North Star Goals to ensure they are orienting the organization toward the best goal. The goals are to add tremendous value to our customer's mission, enable and support a thriving, innovative, compliant, and resilient marketplace, and make it dead easy to do business with FAS.

While FAS is focusing on the North Star goal, they are also focusing on how to build a climate ready FAS. Climate ready means proactively addressing climate change with two types of actions. The first action is sustainability and greenhouse gas management, which covers reducing our environmental impact, by reducing gas emissions, purchasing sustainable products and services, and reducing waste. The second action area is on climate adaptation and risk management, which focuses on changing how to reduce the climate's impact on us as an organization. This is related to increased wildfires, floods, droughts, or extreme temperatures. We need to think about it in the sense of how we try to reduce the number of breakdowns in our supply chain from the impact of climate change. While these are two distinct and different responses to climate change, they impact each other. The more we can reduce our emissions and waste, the less we need to adapt to climate change. That's important because adapting to climate change isn't cheap. The less money and resources our industry partners use, the better.

There are four key focus areas to building a climate ready FAS that address sustainability and climate risk. The first is managing and reducing our supply chain emissions. The second is how we manage and reduce climate-ready and supply chain risk. Thirdly, boosting sustainable and climate ready offerings so we have sustainable purchasing requirements and making sure that we're boosting those offerings to our

customers. Lastly, maximizing net zero economy offerings. Executive order 14057 has a goal for the federal agency to hit net zero emissions from procurement by 2050. Maximizing net zero economy offerings is thinking about the products and services we need to achieve that goal.

There are seven examples of how FAS has engaged with the industry on climate and sustainability that showcase the various flavors of engagement we have utilized over time. It ranges from tools to sharing information, encouraging suppliers, and offering direct support. The first tool we use is the Green Procurement Compilation (GPC), which was born out of the need to help federal purchasers understand various green or sustainable procurement requirements since there was a point of confusion. Our target audience has grown from federal suppliers, and we are now sharing information with our vendors. We have foundational information for our suppliers, basic information on climate and sustainability, federal requirements, what is in the federal acquisition regulations, and frequently asked questions for them.

The next tool is the GSAAAdvantage!, the federal acquisition online purchasing tools for customers. This provides an interface between federal purchasers and industry partners. The environmental aisle is helping our federal purchasers find better sustainable products and services, and helping our industry partners market them.

GSA Interact is a forum for industry and government to communicate on different acquisition topics. There are different communities within this to learn about different acquisition topics. Some are specific to specific contracts, such as Alliant and others are general topic areas. There's an opportunity here because we don't have a climate and sustainability community.

FAS partnered with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) this past year to deliver a three-part webinar series to provide free training on federal policies related to greenhouse gas management and a series on completing a GHG inventory for industry partners and how they started reducing their gas emissions. This is on GSA's YouTube channel, with more than 600 views. Earlier this month, we launched our first webinar in the Office of Policy and Compliance policy landscapes. This covered the policy making process and how industry can participate in that process with climate related and cyber security policy initiatives. The goal was to support industry awareness of the existing and potential new requirements and regulations coming down the pike in different areas.

In 2015 in conjunction with President Obama signing Executive Order 13693, GSA launched a pilot program, Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP). In 2015, 120 suppliers

were invited to disclose their GHG emissions through CDP voluntarily. This pilot has continued since 2015, and we invited 184 top suppliers to report to CDP this year. This is a voluntary process, so of the suppliers who responded, 52% currently have GHG emissions reduction targets and 62% have identified climate related risks that could have a financial or strategic impact on their business. A Federal Contractor Climate Action Scorecard on GSA's Data to Decisions (D2D) website showcases the CDP disclosure data pulled.

They took a very direct approach to support a subset of their suppliers to advance climate and sustainability. In 2010 they launched a greenhouse gas pilot reporting for small businesses following a release of a set of recommendations that GSA was required to pull together for vendor and contractor emissions. GSA was asked through an executive order to investigate whether greenhouse gas emissions information could be used in the federal procurement process and, if so, how that could be accomplished. The recommendations that came out of the reports were generally "yes," but there was a lot more information and research that needed to be done, and there were remaining questions. One of the questions was whether we could ask small businesses to report their greenhouse gas emissions along with what the impact and benefits would be on them. A GHG Reporting Small Business Pilot was rolled out to help answer that question. Eighty small businesses were invited to participate and 47 decided to participate. Their first task was to conduct a base year GHG inventory for 2010 and 35 of the 47 participants completed it. By the time the next inventory report was due, there were only 11 participants, and then the pilot program ended due to a significant decrease in participation.

We use procurement processes to engage with industry on this topic area. FAS has a FAS Acquisition Council (FAC), and the FAC reviews acquisition at different phases of the acquisition process and offers feedback to the heads of contracting activities and acquisition teams in a collaborative effort to produce a successful outcome. Currently, through this process, they are reviewing large external government-wide contracts to ensure we are adding greenhouse gas and climate risk requirements, and making sure that the sustainable procurement requirements are also added to those where applicable. We can use the plans every agency is required to put out on sustainability and climate change management. The requirement was added to GSA's climate change risk management plan, which committed FAS to ensure contracts in the areas with the greatest climate risk are reviewed. The top 5 at risk are telecommunications, motor vehicles of fleet, professional services, IT hardware and IT services. The FAC reviews those externally facing acquisitions in those areas to ensure climate risk is

considered at the various spaces of the acquisition life cycle. We collect feedback from industry on climate and sustainability requirements through draft requests for proposals. For example, the OASIS+ draft RFP is out for comment and includes pre and post award climate and sustainability requirements. That draft is open until the end of the month and will help us shape these contracts with these requirements and to have conversations in the industry.

A key challenge faced is prioritization. Climate and sustainability aren't a priority of every administration, so it's challenging to keep a steady line of progress moving forward, including ensuring that our suppliers understand the requirements and our acquisition workforce. Working in an on and off dynamic, makes it challenging to keep the knowledge building and growing. There is a rebuilding of skills and people when the pendulum swings back to being a priority. There are many other acquisition requirements beyond climate and sustainability, and we can't combine everything.

Another challenge is the learning curve. Prioritization plays a role because some of our suppliers are savvy in climate and sustainability, but some are not. It takes resources both on the government and industry side to get this right to build this learning curve and to build that understanding of what it means to add these requirements, how we add them to our contracts and what's the best way to do that in the acquisition process. Federal and industry need to know the requirements, and it is challenging to get them on the learning curve together. Another challenge is properly identifying sustainable offerings. As mentioned earlier, there's a challenge with GSAAAdvantage! on ensuring that we can properly identify sustainable offerings there. This is a challenge not just for GSA or the federal government but even for commercial platforms. Within GSAAAdvantage! how the compliant sustainable products are identified happens in one of two ways. For some of the environmental programs there is a registry of compliant products maintained with the right data and information that we can match in GSAAAdvantage! to ensure designations are correct for the green products available. Many of them don't maintain a register of information like this or don't have the correct data sets for us to connect to within GSAAAdvantage!. The vendor is also allowed to select offerings that can create inaccurate listings. While we are utilizing new tools to address this issue, this does continue to be an issue and we're actively thinking about how we can move this forward over the next few years.

The last challenge is defining the path to net zero procurement. This requirement must be achieved by 2050 and there isn't a clear definition or path to get there. Like other phased approaches, there needs to be markers set to figure out how to do this and where efforts should be targeted moving toward 2050. This also needs to be meshed

with other climate and sustainability goals determined to ensure everything is moving on a path together. This process requires being flexible and building an iterative process since we constantly learn new information as we go along.

INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS SUBCOMMITTEE OVERVIEW: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: Dr. Kimberly Wise White: At the beginning of your presentation, you talked about education and outreach and gave the example of the vaccination mandate as an example. Since the mission of our subcommittee is to look at climate and sustainability, do you all have priorities for climate and sustainability to integrate for outreach and education?

A: Maria Swaby: Regarding climate and sustainability, I get involved with that when they are coming out with a FAR rule. When those are about to come out, we will roll out education and outreach on those issues. GSA is only one member of the FAR council, so we must work in tandem with them. For us to do education and outreach regarding a FAR rule, it has to have some specific GSA applicability that is different from the rest of the federal government.

Q: Dr. Kimberly Wise White: If a committee like ours identifies specific recommendations, then would those recommendations potentially come to you all for action in the future?

A: Maria Swaby: Yes, potentially.

Q: Nicole Darnall: When we think about small businesses, managing the climate element is going to be a challenge. What struck me was that you reached out to 80 and eventually the pilot program got canceled due to a lack of interest. What did you learn in that process and what do you think would've made that pilot program more successful that you might be able to take forward into the next iteration?

A: Katie Miller: I'll get back to you with more information on that, but I did review one of the reports that came out and one of the challenges was knowing who the right person was to ask questions to. We had the contractors supporting the businesses and FAS point of contacts were working with them as well, but there was confusion on who to reach out to. It became frustrating to them in the issue areas report.

Q: Farad Ali: Assuming we can be successful, what would be success that would be meaningful and helpful to both of you? What outcome could we have that could be helpful to the work that you're doing?

A: Maria Swaby: We have funding for sustainability projects and climate projects, but we have difficulties reaching the underserved communities and small businesses to provide those opportunities. That's the biggest issue we have government wide regardless of the topic, and when we narrow it down to climate or sustainability it becomes a bigger issue. People don't understand climate and sustainability as it is or if they do understand it, they aren't aware of the federal government marketplace as a place they could enter. Either it's unattractive for whatever reason or they are successful commercially that they have no need to get into this space. Success is finding out what's out there in terms of a potential industry base for this topic and we don't have a sense of that large population that falls into the underserved communities. Getting a sense of who those people are would be good. We can't funnel anything in those directions if we don't know what exists.

Katie Miller: How do we make this process easy for our customers and industry partners is the biggest challenge. There's the learning curve on this and there's a lot of other requirements out there along with the net zero procurement by 2050. It's challenging to understand what all the requirements are, especially when it comes to climate and sustainability. Having a path or recommendations would be helpful while helping our industry partners along the way.

Q: Anish Tilak: Could you explain how GSA Interact works and what type of information is posted as the initial request for information (RFI) that starts the conversation and how can this committee come up with information that supports GSA Interact on climate?

A: Katie Miller: Interact is like a social media information sharing tool for industry and government to talk to each other. There is an opportunity to create a community for climate sustainability and to share this information with industry partners and resources on how they can meet these requirements we have out there.

Q: Kristin Seaver: It sounds like both of you engage with industry partner associations. Is there any sort of collective effort engaging with industry associations to have common effort around climate and sustainability that they can disperse and work with their groups on?

A: Katie Miller: Right now we don't have a specific plan for that. We reached out to a lot of industry associations when we launched our webinar series to send out information on it and to share it with their members. That helped to increase attendance. We had over 1000 people register for it and had over 500 attendees. We don't have a coordinated effort to get that information out.

Maria Swaby: We don't have difficulty reaching industry associations, but you are preaching to the choir since they understand the marketplace. What we have difficulty doing is getting to the members who would actually participate in an open way. People are reluctant, especially if they are government contractors, about revealing what their companies are doing in this space. What they do is put together a generic response about their members and submit it to GSA.gov.

Q: Kristin Seaver: I was thinking of leveraging them as an amplifier if there was common curated content going out to all the industry associations to be sharing and educating their groups on. Is it like that?

A: Maria Swaby: We do have it, but it's disjointed. Everyone has their own list of contacts. We do have a subscription feature to get news and events out, but you still have to get people to know that it exists and to subscribe to it.

Q: Kristin Seaver: One of the things we discussed is around the concept of the cybersecurity maturity model. Has there been any thought or discussion to create something like that for climate and sustainability? It would provide universal definitions and tool kitting that folks could lean on.

A: Katie Miller: We do have a cybersecurity group and sitting in their meetings, we wonder how we take some of the successes they've had and import them into the climate and sustainability space. They've been working on a cybersecurity template to hear from suppliers and that is something we've been thinking about doing for climate risk. For some of these contracts we are needing climate risk management reports, but we don't have a definition around that. It doesn't help the industry or us because we're not getting consistent and comparable information. We're thinking of moving to a template where we gather specific information which over time will tell us where the biggest climate risks in different sectors as that information comes into the acquisition process. We haven't gone down the full model, but we are headed in that direction.

Q: Dr. David Waggoner: Do we know what the biggest opportunities are? We don't have infinite time or resources. We should identify the biggest opportunities and pursue those. Is that something you all have some conceptual idea of where those are? Where are the biggest emission reductions possible and can we get at those relatively directly and quickly? Who would we need to reach out to regarding that?

A: Katie Miller: That's something we are looking into right now and conducting an environmental hot spot analysis to figure out where the biggest environmental hot spots in our supply chain are. The last time we did this assessment was in 2014, but

we are looking to replicate that process within the next year and getting support to do that and see how things have changed from 2014. We also want to look at the climate risk. There's a climate vulnerability assessment currently being conducted agency wide, and we want to see if there's overlap between those two areas. Are there certain sectors or offerings where we have the biggest environmental impact as well as the biggest climate risk? Could that be how we target our efforts moving forward to prioritize where we can make the biggest impact?

Q: Nicole Darnall: You mentioned these climate risk management plans. I'm encouraged to hear the possibilities of templates to create transparency across the industry vendors engaging with this. I know you're at the early stages with this, but what are some of the issues you are wrestling with as part of this process?

A: Katie Miller: Part of it is that we are getting a lot of information in. We are just starting to add these requirements to our contracts and there is a phased in timeline for their post award requirements. The climate risk plan for these acquisitions are coming in a year or two after the acquisition starts so we don't have a ton of information at this point on what's to come in. We are trying to create blanket coverage for climate risk in our contracts and it could allow agencies at the task order level to work through their own process of identifying climate risk. We are still figuring this out, but I'm hoping through our climate assessment it will let us target specific sectors and see what their biggest risks are.

Q: Dr. Kimberly Wise White: You mentioned 184 of your vendors were voluntarily providing information on GHG emission reductions. Is there anything you all have there that can help us to leverage where you are seeing challenges, where there are commitments by current vendors, and where they are focusing their time and attention? Out of the 184, what percentage is that out of all your vendors?

A: Katie Miller: We invited 184 of our suppliers to report to CDP and not the full 184 reported. We are in the process of analyzing the information we received. We saw 50% had emission reduction targets and 67% had already identified climate risk which was surprising. There's been a big push from the task force on climate related financial disclosures that has been very investor driven and private sector initiative and I wonder if that is having an impact on driving disclosures more on the climate risk side and not the greenhouse gas side.

Q: Farad Ali: I've been listening to you all insinuate requirements for people engaging on the climate side and we spoke on the underserved community's ability to gain access. On the contract requirements, there's a phased in approach but there's a gap

between outreach, phased approach, and the chain of contract. Is that also perceived as a barrier with small businesses and underserved businesses? How does that contract language allow them to grow into it if they aren't already in it?

A: Katie Miller: We have a slip sheet we've developed that I can share with you, and we share with the supplier community to help keep them educated on greenhouse gas and climate risk requirements. We are targeting these larger contracts and focusing these requirements on larger businesses and not small businesses, since we know there's a longer growing path for that. We are putting these out and we are giving them a year or two to meet these requirements, but it might not be enough for every industry partner.

Maria Swaby mentioned that Farad Ali identified a particular gap that could present an avenue for the subcommittee group to explore more because they do need help with this.

Kristin Seaver thanked the speakers for their time and found the discussion incredibly valuable to the committee.

IPS Mission & Key Priorities Discussion

Kristin Seaver led the key priorities discussion. The current priorities are the areas of focus put together in the beginning but based on some of the discussions we've had there could be new ideas. If there's new ideas, we can discuss it today. We can also look to see if some priorities can be grouped together or leave them out. Is there anything we can add to the priority list?

Comments:

- Dr. Kimberly Wise White - Most of the priorities are focused on small businesses. We had talked about incorporating not only small businesses but underserved businesses so there's a path for them to be successful and understand what entry would be into the GSA model.
- Kristin Seaver - We need to help educate industry on climate and sustainability. How can we help with that?
- Gail Bassette – There's an issue with the access to information for small and minority businesses in the sustainability and climate industry and knowing what to do with that information
- Kristin Seaver - How do we shine the light or the beacon for these businesses to get help as we move forward?

Kristin Seaver mentioned the group will continue to discuss this topic and possible solutions in future meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Josh Jacobs raised a question for Katie Miller.

Q: Josh Jacobs: In the CPD project where you invited 184 people, did the information gathered help to fill in the background justification information for the federal climate risk proposed rule?

A: Katie Miller: That activity is separate from the proposed FAR rule and because of the dynamics I'm not at liberty to divulge.

Josh Jacobs: You both mentioned not getting suppliers to tell you certain things. The money that's been assigned for EPDs and low carbon material in the Inflation Reduction Act is going to help a lot of this since we will be able to see the information from suppliers. They won't be able to hide information especially about global warming potential and environmental impact.

Steven Schooner mentioned how Katie Miller & Maria Swaby spoke about outreach, learning curves, and understanding that GSA and the committee can't interfere with the rulemaking process. What might we be able to do to help the private sector be ready if we ever do have a mandate for GHG assessment disclosure and targeting? Do you see potential in testimonials, pilots, case study examples? If you could find a few of the big primes who are engaged in Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTI) and tell their story, that might make others worried about competitive advantage and prompt them to get on that train. Do you have any thoughts on either of those?

Katie Miller can't answer any questions about preparing the supplier base for a proposed rule, but they have discussed bringing in a supplier who has been doing GHG inventory to talk about their process.

CLOSING REMARKS

Kristin Seaver mentioned there is one more subcommittee before the full committee meeting on January 12th. At the next meeting we will focus on what is the output required for the full committee and how we can pull ourselves together. On the prioritization, we can work behind the scenes on that grid for people to weigh in on.

Farad Ali is excited about the direction the group is going in and asked the subcommittee their thoughts on how they felt about having speakers moving forward.

Kimberly appreciated having the speakers. It gives the committee a window into where they focus their time and attention and where they see challenges and opportunities. It will help us to hone in and prioritize where we want to focus our recommendations.

Kristin Seaver said if there's any other speakers to suggest, please add it to the google doc. She opened it up to any closing comments to members on the subcommittee but there was none before handing it over to Stephanie Hardison

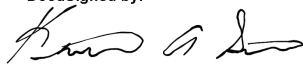
ADJOURNMENT

Stephanie Hardison prepared to conclude the meeting. The next virtual Industry Partnership meeting will be held on January 4th from 3PM – 5PM EST. Stephanie handed it over to Boris Arratia for any final comments.

Boris Arratia mentioned him, and Stephanie are reaching out to the office of small business at GSA. No promises, but we are looking for the right people to talk about small businesses. For anyone not on the Policy & Practice subcommittee, you are more than welcome to join in on the meeting to listen.


Stephanie Hardison adjourned the meeting at 5:00 P.M. EST.

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

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6/16/2023

Kristin Seaver
Chairperson
GAP FAC Industry Partnerships Subcommittee

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6/16/2023

Farad Ali
Co-Chairperson
GAP FAC Industry Partnerships Subcommittee