

**SOLAR & OTHER RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE
PHOENIX ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION MINUTES**

March 1, 2007

200 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85003

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Kate Widland, Chair
Stephen Ahearn
Ed Lamb
Brian O'Donnell
Jill Van Dierendonck
Mel Hannah

CITY STAFF PRESENT

Stacy Kolegas, OEP
Karen O'Regan, OEP
Dimitrios Laloudakis, Public Works
Erik Kropp, Public Works

OTHERS PRESENT

Loni Dugi, ASU student
Aja Viafora, ASU student

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:11 a.m. with a quorum of five members present.

II REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINTUES

Jill Van Dierendonck made a motion to approve the February 8, 2007 minutes. The motion was seconded by Brian O'Donnell and carried by a vote of 5:0.

Kate Widland arrived at approximately 8:13am.

**III CONTINUED DSSCUSSION OF SOLAR AND TOHER RENEWABLE ENERGY
RESOURCE PROJECTS AND FINANCIAL MODELS OF OTHER CITIES**

Climate Change Updates

Kate Widland reported that SRP has joined Southwest Gas in registering their green house gas emissions with the California Climate Action Registry.

Stephen Ahearn briefed the Commission on the National Governor's Association, of which Governor Janet Napolitano is the first female chair. The Western Governor's Association, consisting of California, Washington, Oregon, New Mexico, and Arizona, has agreed to create a regional Cap and Trade program for greenhouse gases. California's Public Utilities Commission and Energy Commission staff will be involved in development of the program by the fall. Mr. Ahearn said that Governor Napolitano is treating the climate change issue with similar priority as immigration.

Solar and Other Renewable Energy Research

Kate Widland compiled a list of different renewable energy goals and programs for discussion purposes only. She stated that her list does not imply endorsement.

1. Increased City generation of renewable energy. For example, several cities from Austin to Chicago have goals of 20% renewable energy.
2. Increase employees responsible for renewable energy. For example, Chicago plans to employ 75 LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) accredited professionals, with at least two in every appropriate department. Chicago has also created a "green czar" position, a green steering committee composed of top department heads, and expanded the its renewable energy economic development program, which brought in two solar manufacturers.
3. Increased financial support for renewable energy, similar to the 1 percent for energy program that Corporation Commissioner Wong suggested at the December 21, 2006 EQC meeting. Currently, Albuquerque sets aside three percent of its Capital Improvement Program to pay for the energy conservation and renewable energy components of large construction projects.
4. Set a goal to incorporate renewable energy in a set percent of existing buildings or newly constructed buildings. For example, SRP is incorporating renewable energy into all new buildings.
5. Rebate for renewable energy. The City could offer a rebate to citizens who install renewable energy.
6. The City could purchase renewable energy or credits from utilities. For example, Salt Lake City is leading purchaser of renewable energy from its local utility.
7. The City could issue tax credits for installing renewable energy.
8. The City could provide a tax incentive for renewable energy businesses. San Francisco has a Clean Energy Technology Business Exclusion ordinance that provides payroll exclusion for business of a certain size that engage in clean energy technology.
9. The city could charge a carbon tax. Boulder, CO has created a carbon tax for electrical users. The Boulder tax will raise average home bills \$1.33 per month and businesses will pay an extra \$3.80 per month, according to the town. The tax will generate about \$1 million for the city annually. The utility, Xcel Energy, will collect the tax.
10. The City could offer loans. Chicago offers businesses loans for renewable and efficiency projects.
11. The City could expedite permits. Phoenix could offer expedited permits for buildings with a renewable energy component similar to the Scottsdale program which offers expedited review for green buildings.

IV DISCUSSION OF INITIATIVE AND ACTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE

The Commission discussed the various options to establish solar and renewable energy goals, projects and programs for the City. The Subcommittee agreed that the presentation from Valerie Rauluk of SunEdison, scheduled for the next EQC meeting on March 15, may provide information on financial models and feasibility that could help narrow the alternatives. The Commission would like to establish a realistic vision and objectives based on the resources available to the City. As this process unfolds, the EQC would appreciate input from Public Works and OEP to ensure the final product is practical. In the mean time, the Commission will research existing policy and language examples from other cities in order to start formulating a framework for a vision statement.

V FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND MEETING SCHEDULES

The next Subcommittee meeting will be scheduled for April 5, 2007. The agenda will tentatively include:

- Continued discussion of research on renewable and solar energy in other cities.
- Discussion of the Subcommittees goals.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stacy', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Stacy Kolegas
Environmental Programs Assistant

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