

FY 2019 BEEAC Survey Results

Table 1 shows FY 2019 priorities indicated on the BEEAC surveys. FY 2019 BEEAC Survey included responses from 9 jurisdictions.

Table 1: FY 2019 BEEAC Priorities

TOPIC AREA	Priority Ranking					TOTAL BEEAC
	FY 2019 - BEEAC					
	Very High	High	Medium	Low		
Energy Efficiency	4	3	3		10	
High Performance Building Technologies	1	5	3		9	
Technical Assistance for Clean Energy Technology Projects	1	1	5	3	10	
Energy Financing		3	4	3	10	
Energy Resiliency & Climate Adaptation	3	5	1	1	10	
Grid Infrastructure	1	3	4	2	10	

Table 2: Ranking of BEEAC Priorities for FY 2019

BEEAC Priorities	
1.	Energy Efficiency
2.	Energy Resiliency & Climate Adaptation
3.	High Performance Building Technologies
4.	Grid Infrastructure
5.	Energy Financing
6.	Technical Assistance for Clean Energy Technology Projects

Table 3: Links between FY 2019 BEEAC priorities and Local Actions in the [2017-2020 Regional Climate and Energy Action Plan](#)

BEEAC PRIORITIES	Local Actions in the 2017-2020 Regional Climate and Energy Action Plan
Energy Efficiency	1-b to 1-t
Energy Resiliency & Climate Adaptation	1-q to 1-t, 2-a to 2-d, 2-g to 2-h, 2-k, 3-h, 4-a to 4-p, 5-a, 6-a to 6-m
High Performance Building Technologies	1-b to 1-e, 1-g to 1-t, 2-a to 2-k
Grid Infrastructure	2-a, 2-h to 2-i, 3-c, 3-f to 3-h, 8-j
Energy Financing	1-j, 1-l to 1-m, 1-s, 2-d, 3-l
Technical Assistance for Clean Energy Technology Projects	1-a to 1-e, 1-m, 1-p, 1-t, 2-a, 3-c, 3-e to 3-h, 3-u, 6-l

Summaries of Survey Questions:

Q1 – 8 responses

In FY2017, what did members find most useful about BEEAC?

Members found roundtable discussions to be useful opportunities to share best practices between jurisdictions and to network. Additionally, meeting topics and the expertise of speakers were useful to BEEAC members. Some members mentioned that regional problem-solving opportunities should be addressed based on presentations, especially to encourage collaboration across jurisdictions to achieve the region's goals.

Q2 – 6 responses

In FY2017, what did you find the least useful about BEEAC?

A few members felt that meetings were difficult to attend due to schedule conflicts, and some suggested a change in meeting times. Related to this, it was felt that the conference call quality could be improved, as excessive noise or volume issues can sometimes pose a problem. Some topic areas were also unhelpful to jurisdictions, although this was subjective. Also, discussions that were too specific to one jurisdiction were not helpful. Having a better understanding of where different jurisdictions are across state/county lines would be beneficial.

Q3 – 8 responses

Was BEEAC meeting frequency better this year?

BEEAC members felt that meeting frequency was better this year.

Q4 – 8 responses

Was enough time spent in roundtable discussions between BEEAC members? Should there be more or less time spent on this?

Most members felt that the time spent in roundtable discussions was sufficient, with a couple of members feeling that the discussions could be longer.

Q5 – 8 responses

Over the past year were there any meetings/events that stood out as being the most beneficial or had a direct impact on your programs/initiatives? How did this event impact you or your programs/initiatives?

There was a wide range of answers to this question. Members named a few different events as being most beneficial including the AGU building meeting, the Solar Technology Tour, the Technical Implications of Interconnection, Vehicle to Grid, Solar and Storage, Microgrids meeting, the PJM Demand Response program meeting. Showing practical examples of what is happening in the region is useful for jurisdictions, along with any presentations that provide a practical perspective to sustainability work. Members felt that presentations were useful for planning purposes, and this was the primary impact meetings had.

Q6 – 9 responses

What public outreach and engagement initiatives will your jurisdiction be focusing on in FY 2019?

Answers varied with each jurisdiction. Arlington hopes to focus on home solar promotion and their Community Energy Plan update, as well as information on climate resilience. Bowie wants to focus on EV deployment, microgrids, energy efficiency, and green procurement. Fairfax will be focusing on LED lightbulb exchanges, Energy Action Fairfax, Green Business Partners, Fairfax Employees for Environmental Excellence, and the Solarize campaign. Greenbelt hopes to promote solar, weatherization, and LED lights. Loudoun plans to focus on business outreach through the Green Business Challenge initiatives. DOE's Sustainability Division's outreach and education will focus on carbon sequestration through expansion of Prince George's County's urban tree canopy and promotion of the County's Green Tax Incentive to encourage businesses to integrate green practices into daily operations. Prince George's County's Sustainable Energy Program administers the Transforming Neighborhoods Initiative (TNI) Grant Program and does outreach to businesses and residents under this program. Prince William County is exploring the possibility of a local green business award. Their solid waste division is beginning construction of an organic waste management facility, and the County's Environmental Services division is hosting a native plant symposium and a plastic pollution prevention campaign. Takoma Park hopes to implement minimum energy standards for all buildings. The City of Alexandria will be focusing on ongoing engagement with communities on the City's Environmental Action Plan Phase 2 update, SolarizeAlexandria, EarthDay, CPACE, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

Q8 – 9 responses

For the highest ranked topic, what would you specifically like to see covered?

Again, answers varied with each jurisdiction. A few topics included:

- Technical assistance on evaluating market opportunities for offsite renewable energy purchases.
- A collective discussion on all the areas that the region needs to focus on with regard to climate resiliency and climate adaptation.
- State of grid infrastructure and the future (i.e. beneficial electrification, integration of distributed and regional renewables, etc.) so that the barriers are known and overcome in working with utility infrastructure.
- Best practices in community engagement for energy efficiency
- Regional energy efficiency measures / local government energy efficiency accomplishments
- Microgrids
- Examples of private sector development successes
- Community outreach
- Creation of an energy metric dashboard for regional comparison between jurisdictions – using this to identify areas for committee support
- Energy audits and energy use analysis
- Data center sustainability
- Resilience and climate adaptation with regard to special use buildings (animal shelters, fire stations, etc.)
- Planning tool development and support for resiliency and adaptation planning – similar to Regional Climate and Energy Action Plan

Q9 – 7 responses

List any additional topics of interest.

Answers varied, and a few topics came up:

- Local government priorities within the current federal policy landscape
- Storage opportunities
- Smart Cities technology
- Emerging technologies related to EVs/V2G and also EV charging rate policies and structures
- Procurement
- Energy efficiency and energy codes (buildings)
- Energy assurance planning
- Updates on changing state and federal policy as it relates to energy

Q10 – 4 responses

Of the above ranked areas, provide any examples of existing local, state, and/or federal programs (e.g. implementation projects, outreach efforts, etc.) that fit in with these priorities.

Fairfax County –

1. Fairfax County Operational Energy Strategy: provides goals, targets and actions relating to energy and county operations in 10 focus areas: energy use/efficiency; water use/efficiency; green building; innovative energy solutions; electric vehicles; goods and services; waste management; awareness and engagement; utility cost management; and reporting and collaboration.
2. Fairfax Employees for Environmental Excellence: provides outreach to county employees, including a focus on energy efficiency.

Prince George's County –

1. Green Business Certification Program
2. Piscataway Bio-Energy Project
3. multiple programs fall under the umbrella of the County's Sustainable Energy Program
4. Maryland Energy Administration's Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) Rebate Program 2.0
5. Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Program
6. Maryland Freedom Fleet Voucher Program

Q11 – 9 responses

Which topics would you like to see more/less of in FY2019 at BEEAC?

Members were happy with the last year's topic choices. Some members want to address more energy efficiency topics moving forward. Others want more EV topics. EV, microgrids, and smart technologies were suggested topics of interest. Tracking and reporting performance of power systems which use renewable energy is another area of interest, along with the scope and cost of maintaining solar PVs and EV charging stations. A few felt that community energy efficiency topics would be of interest, especially with reference to smart city applications. Members felt that covering solar topics was not as useful as some of these other areas.

Q12 – 9 responses

Do you feel that BEEAC priorities are effectively linked to Climate & Energy, and Air Quality programs/plans? Are there any changes you would like to see implemented in this regard?

Members feel that BEEAC priorities are effectively linked with these programs/plans. Some members felt that there could be more direct recognition of these linkages during meeting discussions (e.g., how will the EV charging/infrastructure efforts that will be discussed in December support broader regional goals?). Members felt that it was useful having links to the various plans and regional goals in agendas and meeting summaries.

Q13 – 5 responses

What legislative priorities should BEEAC focus on and advance to CEEPC for FY2019?

Members want BEEAC to focus on providing comments to Congress on any federal legislation that backslides or advances climate goals. Members feel that it is important for local governments to provide input on these issues since implementation is largely at the local level.

Q14 – responses

What would you like to see implemented this fiscal year that would better support your needs?

Members want to move the region forward by setting goals and working towards these goals. Campaigns to raise awareness for many of these issues was also suggested. An updated electric vehicle study was also suggested, and a related regional planning exercise. Members want to see continued integration with CEEPC priorities, and the use of BEEAC as a working group to support CEEPC initiatives.