

Energy Advisory Committee
Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC

February 21, 2012 DRAFT Meeting Highlights
Held at COG Headquarters

Attendance:

Olayinka Kolawole, District Department of the Environment
Najib Salehi, Loudon County
Susan Hafeli, Fairfax County
Phuong Le, Fairfax County
Martine Combal, DC Ofc. of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development
Brandon Mitchell, DC Ofc. of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development
Chris Taylor, Pepco
Luisa Robles, Greenbelt
Bill Eger, Alexandria
Jeffrey Bond, Prince George's County
Sarah Cosby, Dominion (Teleconference)
Said Said, Prince William County (Teleconference)
Eric Coffman, Montgomery County (Teleconference)
Vicki Land, PEPCO Holdings (Teleconference)

Staff

Jeff King, COG DEP
Leah Boggs, COG DEP
Amanda Campbell, COG DEP
Julia Allman, COG DEP

Call to order (Olayinka Kolawole)

- The meeting was called to order at 10:00am.

Approval of January 17, 2012 Meeting Summary

- The meeting summary was approved.

Walter Reed Army Medical Center Sustainability Plan (Brandon Mitchell and Martine Combal, District Office of the Deputy Mayor)

- Brandon Mitchell and Martine Combal of the District Office of the Deputy Mayor provided an overview of the District's reuse of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center site. The DC Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA) holds 67.5 acres of the site, including the full Georgia Avenue frontage. The District's goals for redevelopment are to integrate the site the community, supporting Georgia Avenue redevelopment by providing a mix of retail, housing, and office uses. There has been active public participation in the site planning process.
- The sustainability plan for the Walter Reed site includes principles for renewable energy, on-site water

capture and reuse, transport accessibility, waste reduction, and sustainable materials principles. Energy goals include 100% renewable energy use, reaching net zero use by 2030 and net positive use by 2040. This will be achieved through central utility provision and ASHRAE building efficiency standards. The District hopes to maintain the existing chiller and power generation facilities currently on site. Proposed additions include a central power plant and a cogeneration or tri-generation plant. More information can be found at www.dcbiz.gov.

Energy Task Force Updates (Jeff King)

- Collaborative Procurement of Solar PV: Using EPA funding, on-site feasibility studies for solar projects have been conducted throughout the region. 31 of 40 MWs of feasible generation capacity are located in Northern Virginia, but additional incentives from DOE or EPA may be needed to make implementation economically attractive.
 - WMATA is a strong possibility for being the lead agency issuing RFPs. DCPS will also be involved in solar procurement, but may not enter into collaborative contracts.
 - COG may submit a letter commitment to help move the process along.
- Integrated Community Energy and FVB Report: The reports, on the business case for district energy and a local policy gap analysis, wrapped up in December. There was a call in February to present the reports to the task force. The task force has requested help in prioritizing sites in the region and forming leadership around those sites to advance district energy projects. The group will reconvene in the spring. An interesting addition to technologies being considered is the Bloom Energy fuel cell.
- Sustainable Energy with DOD: COG is investigating ways to partner with the Department of Defense on clean energy development. The CEEPC workplan includes the goal of hosting a workshop, but there may be potential for a more long-term partnership. Opportunities include working with Fort Detrick in Frederick County, MD on their net-zero energy goal. Actions may include a collaboration between COG, the State of Maryland, the base, and Frederick County to assess clean energy opportunities on the base and opportunities to include the surrounding community.

Utility Data Request (Jeff King)

- COG has an ongoing data sharing agreement with utilities to create a robust and consistent energy dataset. COG now has data for calendar years 2005 (used in the 2008 Climate Change Report), 2009, and 2010. Requests for 2011 data will begin soon. Prior to requesting data, COG is interested in comments from utility managers or others on data quality and needs for additional data points or data cuts.

State Legislative Update (Julia Allman)

- Virginia:
 - COG will be submitting a letter of support for HB 129, which allows behind-the-meter power purchase agreements with third-party renewable energy sellers, called “net metering sellers.”
 - COG is also monitoring HB 1177 – Virginia Energy Plan Objectives and HB 232 – Landfill Gas and Thermal Equivalents in the RPS standard.
- Maryland:
 - COG will submit letters in support of:
 - HB 441 / SB 237 – Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act of 2012
 - HB 864 / SB 595 – Creating a community energy generating program; exempting small, on-site renewable energy generators of 2MW or less from designation as utilities;

allowing them to own and sell RECs and requiring utilities to buy excess power at wholesale.

- HB 628 – Allowing municipalities to purchase street lighting from utilities at fair market value
- HB 1280 – Exempting plug-in electric vehicle charging stations from being regulated as electric utilities
- HB 1088 – Creating an on-bill efficiency finance program, which enables electricity customers to finance efficient appliances and home/commercial renovations through the utility, paid back on their energy bill.

Upcoming Meetings and Events (Leah Boggs)

- Portfolio Manager Training - March 5th. As COG members, particularly Loudon County, have begun to utilize ENERGY STAR's Portfolio Manager to manage building efficiency data, there is a need for better training on the tool. The workshop will discuss traditional uses of Portfolio Manager, as well as how to use account sharing to compare buildings regionally and nationally.
- There was a DC public meeting on February 21 to discuss energy benchmarking.

Proposed Topics for Next Meeting

- Sustainability initiative with DOD
- Solar procurement update – in the early part of the year
- Electric Vehicles Work Group update
- Next steps for the Integrated Community Energy Task Force
 - Potential site visits to a Bloom Energy site and/or Fort Belvoir testbed facility
- Green Power Communities Program
 - Potential workshop on REC certification and green power purchasing

Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

- Next meeting to be held on March 15th.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.