



Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC)

MEETING SUMMARY: May 25, 2016

CEEPC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

- Penny Gross, Fairfax County (Chair)
- Del Pepper, City of Alexandria
- Melissa Adams, Washington Gas
- Dr. Kambiz Agazi, Fairfax County
- Andy Beacher, Virginia DOT *
- Nick Bonard, National Capital Planning Commission
- Lyn Erickson, Maryland DOT *
- Dave Feldman, Livability Project
- Rachel Healy, WMATA
- Veronique Marier, Bethesda Green *
- George Nichols, DC Sustainable Energy Utility
- Tracy Shycoff, US General Services Administration
- Dr. Dann Sklarew, George Mason University
- Tim Stevens, Virginia Sierra Club
- Glenna Tinney, ACPAC Chair
- Ted Trabue, DC Sustainable Energy Utility
- Michelle Vigen, Montgomery County *
- Luke Wisniewski, Maryland Department of the Environment
- Kathryn Zyla, Georgetown Law Climate Center

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

- Andy Beecher, Virginia DOT
- Taylor Bennet, Virginia Sierra Club
- Clifton Iler, National Capitol Planning Commission
- Ben Foster, ICF International
- Alexis Goggans, DC Department of Energy and the Environment
- Corey Jemison, ICF International
- Lauren Marti, ICF International *
- Gina Mathias, City of Takoma Park
- Chris Somers, Arlington County

(*) Indicates participation by phone

COG STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

- Leah Boggs, COG Environmental Programs
- Amanda Campbell, COG Environmental Programs
- Sophie Earll, COG Environmental Programs
- Jeff King, COG Environmental Programs
- Isabel Ricker, COG Environmental Programs
- Madison Wagner, COG Environmental Programs
- Steve Walz, COG Environmental Programs Director
- Aaron Waters, COG Environmental Programs

1. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD, APPROVE MINUTES, CHAIR'S REMARKS

Call to order. Introductions from Penny Gross followed by approval of minutes from the March 23, 2016.

Chair Gross noted that this Committee meeting starts the process to develop the 2017-2020 Climate and Energy Action Plan, which will be a key part of how the region will meet its 2020 greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Built Environment Energy Advisory Committee (BEEAC)

Michelle Vigen, Chair

- Ben Foster spoke at the April BEEAC meeting about the draft analysis on regional energy goals.
- DC Smart Roof program and DGS solar project reported 20 MW of new solar.
- Montgomery County announced addition of 6 MW of PV, saving the county \$11 Million over the next 20 years. This became a PPA which was extended to other jurisdictions.
- In May, BEEAC looked at geothermal technology and hosted a workshop looking at local case studies and financing options.
- Next Meeting is June 16th, 2016.

B. Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC)

Glenna Tinney, Chair

- ACPAC recently reviewed plans for and provided comments on what should be included in the next Regional Climate and Energy Action Plan.
- Clean Air Partners presented about its outreach to schools and recent survey addressing air quality and climate change across demographics.
- The Climate and Energy Leadership awards opened for submissions on April 22nd, deadline is June 22nd. A new component for 2016 is allowing third

parties to nominate candidates. Information is on the MWCOG website in the ACPAC directory. COG Staff notes that ~10 nominations have been received.

- Action: Send email reminder to COG jurisdictions about awards.

C. Member Updates

- Fairfax Co
 - The County recently began its Green Business Partners program. Additional information is located in the county's website. The program recognizes businesses which are leaders in environmental stewardship, integrating sustainability principles. Membership is free, open to any business in Fairfax Co. The simple application process brings substantial benefits.
- DC Sustainable Energy Utility (SEU)
 - The SEU launching low income single family solar program goal of installing 140 home and 15-20 small businesses installations in Wards 7 & 8, to be completed by September 30th, 2016. Will be able to report back by October.
- Montgomery County
 - The County's first Building Energy Compliance benchmarking deadline goes into effect in June. Commercial PACE has begun to receive applications. The County has officially incorporated Montgomery County's Green Bank, currently recruiting its board of directors.
- Takoma Park
 - The City recently completed 14 new and free vehicle charging stations throughout city with help from electric vehicle institute; recently completed neighborhood energy challenge, 171 homes (4% of single family) participated and became Green Home Certified
- Bethesda Green
 - The organization is accepting "Green Champions" nominations until June 17th, 2016. Applications can be from Montgomery County and Northwest DC, Celebration for winners is scheduled for October 6, 2016. Bethesda Green also recently returned from a B Lab program learning about sustainability and incorporating the triple bottom line into future practice.
- District of Columbia
 - The District has just been selected as one of the Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities.

D. Staff Updates and Announcements

- On June 2nd (8:00 am-4:30 pm), COG is hosting, with the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer, the Lab-To-Market Technology Forum at COG. The Forum will address technologies available through federal labs

which can solve environmental problems in the region and increase business development with emergent technologies. The Forum will also address how businesses can work on research with Federal Labs.

- o COG has recently brought on Lindsay Smith as the Food Value Chain Coordinator. She has been hired to connect sustainable farms to local buyers to provide healthier foods for the region.
 - In response to whether the COG will partner with the Piedmont Environmental Council, staff said they are within the regional food basket and will be included in the work.

3. REGIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY STUDY

Jeff King, COG Environmental Programs

Ben Foster, ICF International

Former CEEPC Chair and COG Chair Board Roger Berliner requested the Committee look at whether the region is reaching its goal to have 10% of electricity consumption served by solar and if not how much solar would be needed to meet the goal. The Chair wanted to know how the original 10% goal was calculated.

COG engaged ICF International to follow up on its work studying solar potential as part of the Multi-Sector Working Group process to help answer these questions. This study looks at how solar and other renewable technologies have been and could be deployed in the region to reach goal of 10% production, which amounts to 6,120 million KWh for 2015.

ICF analyzed on-site solar installations, purchases of renewable power or renewable energy credits (RECs) generated off site, and utility supplied renewable power under Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS). Results show these sources accounted for 9.5% of regional electrical use in 2012 usage without considering large hydropower (defined as systems larger than 30 Megawatt in size). Large hydropower was considered separately at the request of BEEAC. Of that, the region's utilities supplied 6%, Customer voluntary green purchase amounted to 3%, and distributed solar assets amounted to ~0.3%. DC and MD sources produce considerably more power, leaving room for growth and opportunity in VA.

With the addition of large hydropower, ~11.5% of the region's electricity consumption is supplied from renewable sources, so the region has met its 10% goal.

The study forecast the renewable potential for 2022. The forecast assumed (i) utilities will meet RPS targets, (ii) there would be a 10% increase in voluntary green power purchases, and (iii) there would be an annual growth of 20-25% in distributed renewables (including aggregated purchasing programs, community solar, and incentives). The forecast showed a potential for 25% renewable energy consumption when hydropower is included. Non-hydropower renewable energy generation

provided by utility rises to 14% of regional consumption while consumer voluntary green purchases rises to 5%. However, reaching these targets will not be simple. For example, to reach the projected solar implementation level, 2,682.6 megawatts would have to come online, equivalent to 640 megawatts or 3,800 acres of commercial solar installations, 1,454 megawatts or 8,700 acres of utility solar, and 587 megawatts or approximately 121,000 new single-family home sized installations.

Discussion

- How much of the green power purchases came from individual consumers?
 - ICF working with COG staff to determine the figure. COG has received data showing 80 million KWh of purchases by the residential customers in the Dominion service territory, and is working with Pepco to determine the level of individual purchases in the District and Maryland.
- Could COG staff send final copy of report to Senator Frank Wagner who is chair of a legislative subcommittee in the Virginia General Assembly charged with looking at renewable legislation over the summer?
 - Staff said they would provide the study to Senator Wagner.
- Are arbitrage RECs happening in region, and what percentage of the renewables purchased are produced outside of the region? Also, could the report address community solar?
 - Sources for renewable or REC purchases are not provided by EPA, but purchases are provided by type.
- From a government perspective, it is important to differentiate between and purchase of a REC and an installation within the region. Perhaps there should be two goals, one for in-region activity and one for total renewable sourced electricity.
- Could ICF provide glossary in report?
 - Staff said this would be added.
- District Councilmember Mary Cheh recently held hearing on the District's renewable energy portfolio. Can these thoughts be included into analysis in report?
 - Staff will consider the results of the hearing when completing the report.
- There was discussion about why to exclude large hydropower. Committee members felt we should count all sources of renewable power when considering the regional goal.
 - Staff will include large hydropower data when evaluating the status of the regional renewable electricity goal.
- Committee members are encouraged to submit comments before the report is finalized.

4. REGIONAL CLIMATE AND ENERGY ACTION PLAN UPDATE KICK-OFF

Steve Walz, COG Environmental Programs Director

Melissa Low, Researcher, National University of Singapore Energy Institute

Mai Huong, Climate Change Coordinator, Da Nang City, Vietnam

Steve Walz introduced COG International Fellows. He provided preliminary results of the Regional Climate and Energy Action Plan and the Multi-Sector Working Group surveys. These results will be considered in developing the new action plan. Additionally, COG staff will work to develop more outcome measures, moving away from the output measures in the current plan.

Mai Huong and Melissa Low have been working at COG in May through the Young Southeast Asia Leadership Initiative (YSEALI) Professional Fellows Program. Mai Huong introduced the program. Melissa Low then presented best practice studies of 7 international cities with a focus on renewable energy usage and implementation, innovative building and energy approaches (New South Wales Australia, Shenzhen, Singapore as examples), and innovative clean tech approaches. They are drafting a report identifying opportunities to incorporate these best practices in the metropolitan Washington region.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TOOLKIT OUTLINE

Glenna Tinney, ACPAC Chair

Ms. Tinney updated CEEPC on ACPAC's work to develop the EJ Toolkit. She presented a detailed outline showing the proposed organization of the toolkit, including case studies and resources. The outline has previously been presented to MWAQC-TAC and BEEAC for comment. The toolkit outline includes many different links to various websites.

Moving forward, ACPAC will invite EJ advocates to its June meeting to comment on the toolkit, and then begin writing the toolkit. Draft should be ready by CEEPC's September meeting for review. Goal to complete the toolkit in November and hold an EJ workshop in the winter of 2016-2017.

Discussion

- Can EJ be on agenda for the joint CEEPC/Chesapeake Bay meeting?
 - COG staff will investigate with the two committee chairs.

6. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL FUND WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET

Steve Walz, COG Environmental Programs Director

CEEPC was asked to review the main Work Program elements at its March meeting. The final Work Program is before the Committee in May for approval. There are 9 program areas proposed for FY17 including:

1. Climate and Energy Policy Development;
2. Built Environment and Energy Advisory Committee (BEEAC);
3. Energy Infrastructure, Efficiency and Renewables;
4. Sustainability and Adaptation;
5. Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC);
6. Vehicle Emission Reductions;
7. Member Support/Environmental Resources Work Program Development;
8. Regional Solid Waste & Recycling Management; and
9. Green Infrastructure & Urban Watershed.

The Regional Environmental Fund budget is set by the COG Board in January when it approved the overall COG Budget. Support for the program comes from COG member fees, grants, and the Regional Environmental Fund.

Motion to approve the work plan passed unanimously.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The next CEEPC meeting is scheduled for July 27, 2016. It will be a joint meeting with the Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC).