

# Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee

Suite 300, 777 North Capitol Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20002-4239 ☐ (202) 962-3360 ☐ Fax: (202) 962-3203  
<http://www.mwcog.org/environment/committee/>

**The Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC) is an advisory body to the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) and the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC)**

Draft Meeting Minutes  
Monday, December 13, 2010  
Room 1  
5:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M.

**ACPAC members:** Deron Lovaas – Chair, Bill Butler, Beverly Fourier, Sally Kane, Caroline Petti, Julie Van Fleet, Larry Zaragoza

**Staff:** Joan Rohlf, Jeff King, Maia Davis

## **1. Call to Order, Adoption of Agenda, Approval of Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm. The agenda was approved with the move of the microgrid discussion to the first presentation of the evening. The minutes of November 15, 2010 were approved with no changes.

## **2. Federal Home Energy Rating Systems Overview (Maia Davis, DEP Staff)**

The Energy Star Home Energy Yardstick and the new US Department of Energy (DOE) Home Energy Score are two home rating systems by the federal government. They both have a 1 - 10 rating with 10 being the most efficient. The Yardstick is an online tool that takes minutes for any home owner to enter their information and retrieve a score. The Score requires an auditor to come to your home, record 45 data points, enter the information into an online database which will then provide a score. The Home Energy Score is in a pilot program phase and is accepting comments.

ACPAC members decided that a comment letter should be drafted on the Home Energy Score. Comments and questions included a concern for air quality issues when making home energy improvements, what the pricing is based on for improvements (national average?), the Score uses a BTU equivalent instead of a CO2 equivalent like the Yardstick, rating a building's performance without considering operations of that building and providing homeowners information on local incentive programs. A letter will be drafted and discussed at an upcoming ACPAC meeting.

## **3. Microgrid, Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Project (Jeff King, DEP Staff)**

In November, CEEPC and the Energy Advisory Committee (EAC) had presenters and discussions on community energy planning. Based on those discussions there seems to be an immediate need for assistance with microgrids and CHP. A committee of experts and COG members has been formed and currently under discussion are some potential outcomes of this project including identifying barriers and solutions (zoning or other policy change needs, utility laws, etc), a model request for proposal, identifying potential sites in the region, setting targets for the region, developing case studies, holding workshops and more. Tours of sites for COG members may or may not be considered.

ACPAC was asked for their feedback and additional input on the potential outcomes of the project. One ACPAC member stated that the "show and tell" of sites is an important component of education. Suggestions for whom to contact regarding their experience or expertise included the Navy, Pentagon and Princeton. Several members

expressed concern about the benefits of microgrids and CHP and asked that the project analyzes the whether these projects are or can be beneficial for air quality and greenhouse gases and if they can be generated from cleaner sources of energy.

**4. Committee Updates:**

- **MWAQC:** The December 8 meeting featured Steven Hayward, American Enterprise Institute, who gave an overview of national air quality trends over the past few decades. His key point was that we don't give enough credit to the air quality improvement successes and that moving forward we need to put forth an effort on hazardous air pollutants and other pollutants that have not shown remarkable improvement.
- **CEEPC:** The committee has had presentations and discussions on electric vehicles and implementation of electric vehicle infrastructure in the region. COG will be hosting an electric vehicle conference in the spring. Some ACPAC members felt there are some immediate benefits to electric vehicles in this region related to decreased tail pipe emissions. Other comments included that charging stations need to be made powered by renewable sources and that locating charging stations at workplaces will be a challenge.

**5. Recruitment of New Members (Maia Davis, DEP Staff)**

ACPAC recruitment for new 2011 members is currently underway. A web-based recruitment strategy has been implemented using the COG website, Linked In, Facebook, Patches (online community newsletters), an e-card and a COG blog. Nine valid applications have been received. One member suggested reaching out to civic associations and university sustainability clubs, offices and hospitals. Another member suggested children's hospitals and lower income and minority communities.

**6. Nominating Committee**

Deron Lovaas, ACPAC Chair, appointed a nominating committee to nominate a chair and vice chair for 2011. The nominating committee will include Deron Lovaas, Larry Zaragoza and Sally Kane. Nominations will be announced at the January meeting and elections will occur in February.

**7. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

<b>Next meeting: January 10 – 5:30pm – Room 4/5</b>
---