

ACCELERATING SOLAR ENERGY DEPLOYMENT

Next steps for Integrated Multi-Sector Action

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MWAQC TAC
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COG Board Climate Priority Options 2022-2023

- In 2022, the COG Board asked for staff recommendations for areas to prioritize for accelerating action to meet the region's 2030 Climate and Energy Goals.
- Staff recommended:
 - **Electric Vehicles (EVs)**. Support adoption of Electric Vehicles through investments in supporting infrastructure and programs.
 - **Commit to 100**. Move toward more widespread adoption of renewable energy, solar photovoltaic (Solar PV) deployment.
 - **Building Benchmarking and Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS)**. Encourage energy efficiency investments through requirements for Building Benchmarking and Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS) policies and programs.

Electric Vehicles (2022)

Regional Electric Vehicle Deployment Working Group (REVD);

- Information Clearinghouse
- Best Practice Checklist
- Infrastructure Mapping
- Partnership Development
- Business Case

Regional Electric Vehicle Deployment Infrastructure Plan (REVI);

- Project EV Charging needs based on anticipated growth in EV adoption
- Parcel level GIS analysis of Charger Locations
- Support for Competitive Grant Funding.

Accelerating Action on Solar (2023)

- COG Board asked the Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) for recommendations this Fall on Renewable Energy/Solar Initiatives.
- Under Consideration
 - Commit to installing solar systems on government facilities
 - Investigate purchasing 100% renewable energy for government operations.
 - Consider establishing a new regional 2030 Solar Goal.
- CEEPC Member input includes:
 - Leadership on innovation.
 - Don't limit to rooftops, look to carports, EV charging.
 - Support for low-income should continue to be a high priority.
 - 2030 Climate and Energy Plan estimated 250,000 solar rooftops as a benchmark.

Renewables and Solar Areas of Focus

- Examples of COG staff Work Activities, Products:
 - Support for State Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS)
 - Solar Rooftop Goal – 20,000 by 2020, exceeded goal!
 - Current Solar Rooftops - >70,000
 - Joint Procurement Support, Feasibility Studies
 - Rooftop Solar Challenge/NVRC Sol Smart/Solar Market Pathways
 - Virginia Statewide Solar Strategy
 - Support for Solarize/Solar Coops, Solar Mapping
 - Database of Local Goals and Programs

What's Next?

- Member and staff input on ideas to advance for local and regional implementation?
 - Prioritize Solar as part of the CPRG PCAP
 - Market share of RE, NG, Coal, Wind, on PJM grid and NCR Loop.
 - Data center load growth, off-site solar leadership
 - Utility IRP
 - Need for new natural gas distributed generation (i.e., recip engines)
 - Future role of Renewable Natural Gas and Hydrogen
 - Community Choice Aggregation
 - Other ideas?

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