

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

**June 16, 2011 DRAFT EAC Meeting Highlights**

**Attendance:**

Taresa Lawrence, Chair, District of Columbia Department of the Environment (DDOE)  
Steve Walz, Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC)  
Said Said, Prince William County  
Cordell Martin, New Generation Biofuels  
Najib Salehi, Loudoun County  
Sarah Cosby, Dominion  
Andrew Flavin, Dominion  
Susan Hafeli, Fairfax County  
Lisa Orr, Frederick County  
Nicole Steele, Loudoun County  
Joan Rohlf, MWCOG  
Jeff King, MWCOG  
Leah Boggs, MWCOG  
Jeannine Altavilla, MWCOG  
Amanda Campbell, MWCOG

**Call to Order** (Taresa Lawrence)

- The meeting was called to order at 10:05am.

**EAC Priorities and Schedule** (Jeff King and Leah Boggs)

- COG staff proposed a brief conference call at the beginning of every month to ensure the content, format and date of EAC meetings provides the most effective meetings. Members can also share schedules for the month to notify others of upcoming events. The committee was receptive to this idea and will begin conference calls in September.
- FVB Energy will be on the agenda for July. They should have the first draft deliverables by the EAC meeting. Community energy planning will also be a topic at the COG retreat July 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>. NVRC can add to the July agenda with legal work on district energy being completed for the Virginia case.
- Utility data for 2005, 2009 and 2010 will be analyzed and presented at the September meeting.

- Upcoming Meetings: Climate Community Local Government Summit; Sustainable Energy Expo on the Hill today; EPRI Plug-In conference in Raleigh July 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>; DDOE is attending the Mid-Atlantic State Energy Office meetings June 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>; VEPGA's next meeting is scheduled for September, they may not be negotiating more wind due to a provision that allows localities to purchase RECs right off of the tariff.

**Washington Regional Electric Vehicle (EV) Coalition Planning Initiative** (Joan Rohlf, Jeff King and Leah Boggs)

- COG just submitted a proposal responding to the DOE EV Readiness planning grant opportunity. The proposal would create a regional electric vehicle coalition to prepare a regional EV deployment plan. COG is working with a number of partners including: Clean Cities coalitions, BEVI, NVRC, ICMA, NAFTC, Dominion, Pepco, NOVEC, Potomac Edison and several others. If COG does not get the grant a plan would still be created, though it would not be as extensive. Jurisdictions will participate on the work groups and committees to help provide insight from their pilots.
- Loudoun has presented fee options to the finance committee. Regional coordination on an item like this will be very important. Nicole Steele is interested in working on a committee for this plan.

**Regional Energy Grant Opportunity: DOE Solar Energy Technology Grant** (Jeff King)

- The Climate Action Plan has a goal of 10,000 solar roofs in the region. COG is helping to organize a collaborative procurement of large-scale solar installations through EPA's Green Power Partnership. There is a proposal in the District to increase the solar requirement in the Renewable Portfolio Standard. There is a new DOE solar grant opportunity looking for communities or groups to remove barriers to solar installations. Should the region submit a bid or are there individual efforts in states going on?
- DDOE and Virginia have been looking at this individually. A call will be set up for July 7<sup>th</sup> at 10am to discuss whether a regional submission makes sense. This will be in time for the letter of intent due date of July 18 and the application deadline of August 31.
- With regards to the Green Power Partnership cooperative procurements, right now there are 14 agencies considering 150 sites. If all completed, it could cost \$100 million and add 35 MW of solar. Agencies are hoping to save 10-15%. The next step in the process is to issue an RFP for the onsite assessments which will identify the final sites. Then, an RFP would be issued for those ready sites that would include the systems and the financing solutions. Right now the RFP for onsite assessments will be late 3<sup>rd</sup> or early 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

### **Integrated Community Energy Planning (Jeff King)**

- The community energy planning project started last year with an interest in microgrids after work began in Loudoun and Arlington counties. Rollover funding from the air agencies allowed a task force to identify potential focus areas for a consultant. COG issued an RFP and hired FVB Energy to complete two tasks.
  - The first task will address existing local and state policies, including best practices and a gap analysis. See meeting materials for a sample compilation table.
  - The second task will develop cost benefit information and establish a business case for integrated community energy solutions. See meeting materials for a detailed proposed table of contents for the final report. Please comment.
  - A draft of the first task is due in July before the COG retreat. The report will be wrapped up by the end of September. Subcontractor Lori Perrine is completing the first task and may need help from locals to fill in gaps on existing policies.
- As part of this effort there is also interest in touring existing facilities. Joe Orlando from the Mid-Atlantic RAC has been trying to organize some tours; hopefully these will be set soon.

### **Discussion of Per Capita Energy Use As Regional Indicator and Utility Update (Jeannine Altavilla)**

- Region Forward is COG's vision for the region. The plan contains goals and targets to guide future efforts and measure progress. Indicators will also be used to monitor if the region is moving in the right direction. Energy use per capita is an indicator that will inform sustainability targets. COG staff has come up with two different ways to calculate this indicator and is approaching this committee for recommendations on a figure to include in the baseline and progress reports for Region Forward.
- See meeting materials for the considered calculations based on collected residential utility data and Energy Information Administration regional power plant generation.
- These calculations do not include transportation fuel or heating oil. Consider calling it Regional Electricity and Natural Gas Use rather than Energy Use to avoid confusion.
- Where did the power plant data come from? In completing the regional greenhouse gas inventory a workgroup was formed in 2007. The group used the air quality conformity area, which is the COG region and Charles and Calvert Counties, to identify power plants in the region. The region is a net-importer, so the group looked at consumption versus production, and applied a regional PJM emissions factor to the amount of imported power. The same plants were used for the calculation here.

### **New Generation Biofuels (Cordell Martin)**

- Cordell Martin has been invited to talk about biofuels that are being used to replace home heating oil number 2. The fuel is produced locally in Maryland.
- New Generation Biofuels (NGBF) is a Maryland-based company that has hired an energy management company to help find customers that can convert to alternative fuels when it makes sense. NGBF is a publicly traded technology company that produces biofuels for commercial boilers. Their fuels are formulated to be used neat (at 100%) or blended with other fuels. There are currently two products available on the market and a third product will be released later this year. These products meet state requirements. NGBF is offering these fuels on a cost-neutral basis.
- Fuels can be produced locally. If there is enough demand, a 25 million gallon per year facility can be located in a relatively small space, without concerns of usual power plants because there are no significant by-products, wastes, emissions or discharges. Local products can be used to produce the fuels.
- The products work in existing tanks and with existing equipment. Conversion to NGBF products requires only a tuning at the first conversion.
- NGBF is working on developing pyrolysis solutions that will be able to use virtually any waste materials, eliminating price fluctuation due to commodities markets.
- NGBF is hoping to expand to marine and off-road construction fuel.
- DOE just issued \$36 million to 7 groups to research and test what NGBF already does.
- If there is local interest, a testing location can be identified for COG to use.
  - Frederick, Loudoun and the District are interested. Leah will send out an email to schedule a time to discuss further.

### **Roundtable Exchange**

- The DC SEU has launched one program. Information on open RFPs and all programs available at [www.dcseu.com](http://www.dcseu.com).
- A contractor is in the planning stage for DC's Commercial PACE program.
- NVRC Board: NVRC has been asked to work with localities on energy strategies. Areas to work across jurisdiction lines are being identified and prioritized. Research will be coordinated across the region as developed.
- MCEC is hosting an electric vehicle focused meeting soon. Someone from COG will participate.

### **Next Meeting Date and Adjournment**

- The next meeting will be July 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Adjournment at 11:40am.