



San Juan Regional Community Energy Board
Meeting Agenda-Draft
August 17, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.
Placerville Firehouse

Call-in Option: 218-936-7979, access code 394137

Attendees – Kim Wheels, Elaine Fischer, Todd Brown, Bob Risch, Brad Zaporski, Stu Fraser, Jen Coates, Sandra Esch, Ken Haynes, Kris Holstrom, Keith Meinert, Natalie Shelbourne, John Clark

1) Advisory Board members – Activity Update

Ouray - \$20k grant for geothermal; hydro electric generator issues

SMPA – programs moving forward; working on weatherization program (WAP) efforts –looking to qualify people for the WAP (free furnaces, appliance, insulation, weather stripping, caulk); WAP rep in Nucla in Am and Ridgway in PM; Kim has information to distribute and is seeking outreach to communities.

Telluride – solar array waste water treatment plant (wwtp) under construction, which will offset 10% of total electric use for wwtp; Sun Edison presentation on solar array for SMPA region and speaking with SMPA on goals for Telluride and Mountain Village – SMPA working on gathering data; Mayor’s Energy Forum to work toward inclusivity with SMPA, including the Power Purchase Agreement with Sun Edison; Sun Edison is planned to build, own, maintain the solar facility and SMPA purchases power; need to stay within limits allowed by Tri-State.

Ridgway – micro hydro feasibility study on hold at the moment.

Norwood – inquiry on other renewable projects outside of the 2MW Sun Edison project; likely other projects will follow suit once the initial project is started.

Ken Haynes – pursuing grants to reduce regional GHG.

Kris Holstrom - \$53k for hockey rink system and lighting for Norwood school; walk through of public buildings for performance contracting in the region; can possibly reach out to Ouray County on the ESCO performance contracting although not directly funded with this effort; Thursday Durango regional sustainability meeting; American Renewable Energy Day – this weekend in Aspen; Telski doing energy analysis.

Ouray County – anemometer taken down from fairgrounds location and now installed on the mesa; fairgrounds data not in but does not look promising at this time.

SMPA – working on anemometer loan program with Telski but difficulty with permitting through the forest service; unsure if available for government testing but will check and report back. Interested parties contact Brad Zaporski; anemometer can be rooftop or up to 60’.

SourceGas – working with customers to complete energy audits and implement rebates; Paul Smith manager of energy programs can work with larger entities to customize energy retrofits for buildings; working on energy numbers for region – billing systems changing over 3 years and so has been a challenge to obtain the data – working on gathering.

San Miguel County – Region 10 and 5 counties working on Transportation Committee – finally signed an IGA and working to get members on committees to participate in who needs what, where. Level of interest is high.

Kim Wheels / TNCC – festivals (Jazz, Phish); educational classes – sustainability; Kim to Denver for CEC meeting for Main Street Energy Efficiency program; Tour of NREL and NREL programs on developing sustainability – similar to GEO CEC program, NREL has technical team that CECs can use as a resource (eg: renewable energy project, etc.) with priority given to Colorado inquiries

2) TNCC / GEO Program Update

- a) Festivals
- b) Education
- c) CEC Meeting & NREL tour – Aug 5, 6 – Main Street Energy Efficiency

3) STRATEGY

- a) Review of process & our status

Update to Goal 1 and updated proposed action items

Discussion of Renewable Portfolio Standards – provide certain percentage of electricity from RE; now at 1% then jumps up to 5%, different scheme for the various utilities (Investor Owned utilities are 30% by 2020), with Rural Electric Cooperatives (10% of renewable KWH sold by 2020) – creates juxtaposition for SMPA between Tri-State 5% max and the state mandate of 10% by 2020. Goals are different to reduce economic burden on rural areas.

Large scale systems are different from small scale systems; under net metering there is no limit to the amount of energy than can be net metered; overall objective includes large and small scale systems;

The Board discussed what % is realistic for SMPA to achieve and what is realistic for the remainder.

General discussion included the following concepts: The % reduction of GHG target is different than reduction target identified to “reduce energy consumption”; What does a GHG reduction equate to in terms of “reduced energy consumption”? Comments indicated this is not simple (eg: 20% GHG reduction targets for Telluride and Mtn. Village are in place now).

The Board discussed variables to consider and qualify energy consumption (e.g. Heating Degree Days, fluctuations in use, population growth, etc.)

The Telluride region is 70% of total SMPA usage.

The SMPA goal is to not cross-subsidize customers.

It was reported that during a recent Tri-State Board Meeting, there was consideration for individual coops to pay a premium for renewable energy (RE), although the conversation is very preliminary.

SMPA customers pay 3rd highest fee for energy per KWh due to transmission and distribution and the topography of the SMPA region (rural mountain); all rural co-ops pay same fee/KWh to Tri-State.

5% cap (of total load) is for local renewable generation only, outside of Tri-State

It was offered that each entity might determine what is a “do-able” overall objective and report back on overall objective to the Board and then the regional goals (% and figures) can be solidified.

It was also discussed that inserting an “action item” table for each goal that identifies by jurisdiction, the action items specific to that goal in order to quantify for each sub-area the specific action items that will be targeted.

The Board discussed including carbon offsets as an overall objective, and it was determined that is more of an action item, not an objective.

It was agreed that ‘Education’ should be moved to the position of the first objective as it is overarching and applies to other objectives.

Kim will edit the ‘civic engagement’ objective, and edit all ‘GHG’ references to ‘energy reduction’. It was agreed that we should add details to the specific action items in the civic engagement objective, inclusive of specific legislative lobby organizations (CML, CCI, etc.)

b) Benchmarking Analysis

- i) SMPA & SourceGas data – per capita... population #'s? tourist/visitor #'s?
- ii) Jurisdictional / Regional baseline data

c) Develop Strategic Goals & Action Items

- i) Document Format / Arrangement
- ii) Quick Review of Goals for Energy, Renewables, and Transportation
- iii) Action Item Discussion
 - Goal: one general document for the region that will be revised / adjusted by each jurisdiction to include specific sub-goals and actions.
 - Strategic goals are the milestones we aim to achieve that evolve from the strategic issues. The SMART goals model is used to set meaningful goals. SMART goals are Specific, Measurable, Agreed upon, Realistic, and Time or cost bound.

4) Other GEO

a) Recharge Colorado – Rebate Program – update / status

- i) Insulation & Air Sealing rebate change, Duct Sealing, Energy Monitors, Energy Audits

Kim is working with SMPA on rebates, etc. creating a one stop shop on rebates, credits, etc. from Recharge Colorado website.

b) Weatherization Program update

- i) Plans for outreach with Montrose CEC, SMPA, & Housing Resources

It was suggested that efforts be made to work with the SM and Ouray County Social Services offices – Allan Gerstle, ED for both Ouray and SM counties – to promote these programs.



LEAP is working with GEO on marketing of Weatherization Program

One month ago, CECs met with Housing Resources in Grand Junction; now HR has a WAP contact employee in the Mexican American Development Association in Montrose.

It was recommended that WAP efforts reach out to seniors, persons over 65 years. “Neighbor to neighbor” and other organizations were suggested.

There is a company called “Greenhouse” in the west end of Montrose County that is reaching out to ranches for energy conservation, which may also be beneficial.

c) GEO grants

- i) Main Street Efficiency Initiative – Prescriptive – WE WILL APPLY – “Main St. in a Box”

5) Other

- 6) Schedule Next Meeting – Tuesday, September 7th 3:00 in Ridgway Town Hall

Please add to distribution list Sandra Esch of Norwood: sandrag@sgeproperties.com